

the —
GLOXINIAN

The Journal for Gesneriad Growers

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First Quarter 2002



Chirita 'Kitaguni'

American Gloxinia and Gesneriad Society, Inc.

A non-profit membership corporation chartered by the State of Missouri

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Chirita 'Kitaguni' grown by
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(photo by Julie Mavity-Hudson)

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President's Message

Susan Grose <sagrose@aol.com>
4201 West 99th St., Overland Park, KS 66207

Dear Gesneriad Friends Around the World,

I am writing in early October just as we in the Northern Hemisphere are bringing Gesneriads inside that have been growing outdoors all summer. At the same time, growers in the Southern Hemisphere are planning what they are going to put outside for their summer months. Whatever your season and wherever you are in the world when you receive this message, I encourage all of you to grow some Gesneriads outside that you haven't tried before and let us know what worked for you and what didn't.

The beginning of the new calendar year should be a time of reflection and evaluation of past successes and areas for improvement, and a time for planning for the future. As we look back over the past year, our Society has celebrated a special milestone in our 50th Anniversary. I think we did it well! Sadly, we have also had to say goodbye to some good friends, wonderful growers, and loyal members of our organization; but their enthusiasm, teachings and even their shared plants will live on. As we look forward to our future, let us pass along the knowledge of our early growers and convey their legacy to new members.

How lucky we are to have this special horticultural interest and the friends who share it to carry us through these uncertain times since September 11, 2001. It has been heartwarming to see friends all over the world, linked by Gesneriads, sending letters of concern and offers of support to each other. This spirit caused me to feel a special connection with many people whom I have never met. I hope to see many of you in July at the AGGS Convention in New Jersey.

This First Quarter issue of *THE GLOXINIAN* regularly contains two special sections: the details of the upcoming annual convention and flower show and the latest complete Seed Fund listing. I look forward to them both with equal excitement. The convention will be hosted in Morristown, New Jersey, by the enthusiastic and friendly "flamingos", members of the Frelinghuysen Arboretum Chapter of AGGS. The program looks fabulous! There are a few changes in the schedule from previous years, so be sure to read it carefully, and then send in your registration. I can't say enough about what a wonderful experience attending a convention is, whether it is your first time or your 35th time. The convention is a great way to meet Gesneriad growers from all over the world. If you have never been to a convention, this one will be a great first-time experience. The plant sale promises exotic and rare specimens. The lectures always have new and exciting information. In the flower show we will see what local members as well as those from afar are growing and designing. Another special part of the convention experience for me is the camaraderie—meeting and sharing "plant talk" with new-found friends as well as old. Some of the best growing tips can be gained from conversations at meals or casual chats on a bus trip. I can hardly wait!

Finally, to keep you from going into Gesneriad "withdrawal" between now and the convention, there is the AGGS Seed Fund listing in this issue as well as catalog and other announcements from our advertisers. Be sure you mention where you saw their ad when you order from them. When you order seeds, please send seed back to the Seed Fund from what you produce. It is mostly through the very generous donations of a very small percentage of our members that the Seed Fund has such a wide selection available. Remember these are the seeds of our future!



Stan Schwartz

I met Stan Schwartz in the late 1970's when I joined the Metropolitan Chapter of the Indoor Light Gardening Society (now the Indoor Gardening Society). Here was someone who grew almost everything, and everything he grew was grown to perfection ... and that was what I wanted to do. As my interest in plants deepened and I joined other local chapters, I would often encounter Stan. In those early days I learned something from Stan about growing cacti and succulents, bromeliads, orchids, tropical foliage plants and, of course, Gesneriads.



In the late 1960's when a friend of Stan's started growing cacti, Stan decided to try his hand at them. He soon joined all the local chapters of the various plant societies, including the Greater New York Chapter of AGGS. In the three-bedroom apartment in Flushing, Queens, that he shared with his partner of 32 years, Lou Kunsch, every room was made into a microclimate. On more than one occasion I took care of Stan's plants while he and Lou were on vacation. I recall the aroids, sansevierias and other tropical foliage plants in the living room, various hanging baskets in the kitchen, orchids and more foliage plants in the bedroom, orchids in the den and in the third bedroom. This other bedroom was a tropical paradise. Three light stands, all with three shelves each lit by four-foot, four-tube fixtures, dominated the room. There were plants in the window and at least two other small light stands in this space that was no larger than 12' x 12'. This room was the domain of Gesneriads—and Stan had, at one time or another, grown almost every one of them.

I think it was with AGGS that Stan found his true plant home. He served as a director and officer of AGGS and in 1993 received an Award of Appreciation. Stan attended many conventions helping out whenever needed with judging schools, flower shows, photography and the Endowment Fund auctions. He served as president of the Greater New York Chapter and was Little Show Chair there for almost 25 years. A teacher by profession, I think he enjoyed his job as Little Show Chair very much because it gave him the opportunity to share his knowledge with all his fellow growers. Stan became ill shortly after the Tampa Convention in 2000. When Stan died on August 27th, we all lost a great teacher and a friend.

— Paul Susi

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Seed Fund

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As we are writing this, it has been about a month since the tragic attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. As we all have been recovering in our own ways, so has the mail system. When all air travel was shut down following the attacks, the mail system also came to a grinding halt. This was particularly true for shipments outside the U.S. Fortunately, we were in a slow period for seed orders at the time, but some orders were delayed in getting to overseas destinations. With the uncertain times ahead, please be aware of the impact that disruptions of air service can have on our shipment of seed orders. Thank you for your patience.

We are currently deleting more seed listings than we are adding new ones. We really need to get more people donating seed to the Fund. We appreciate all the donations that we have been receiving, but if you look back through the previous Seed Fund columns, you will see many of the same names recurring from issue to issue. Please try your hand at collecting and contributing seed to the Fund!

If you need help on this topic, one of the best sources is the article "Birds and Bees and Gesneriad Seeds" by William R. Saylor. Reprints of this article are available from AGGS Publications (ordering information is on the back cover of THE GLOXINIAN and on the AGGS website). It would also help us a great deal if donors would clean the seed before sending it to us. This process can be very time consuming for us with the volume of donated seed we have to process. Again there is some information on cleaning seed in the Saylor article.

We would like to thank the most recent contributors to the Seed Fund for their generosity: Ina Beaver, Marcia Belisle, Helen Bortvedt, Karen Cichocki, William L. Crews, Maryjane Evans, John Farina, Rebecca Fontes, Julie Mavity-Hudson, Michael A. Riley, Cathy Robinson, Carol Schreck, Peter Shalit, Bob & Dee Stewart, and Maureen Wilson.

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sp. GRF93191
sp. GRF97160
sp. GRF9852**Diastema** (D,F,P)
latiflorum GRF9669A (white veins)
racemiferum
vexans
Didissandra
 - frutescens* (H,M)**Drymonia**
affinis GRF98109
alloplectoides USBRG96-347 (B)
brochidodroma USBRG95-156 (B)
coccinea GRF9851 (B)
coccinea GRF9873
coccinea GRF98150
 - conchocalyx* (B)
conchocalyx 'Silver Lance' × self (M)
doratostyla GRF9674 (B)
ecuadorensis 'Red Elegance' (LM)
hoppii GRF98103
macrophylla (M)
mortoniana (L)
pulchra GRF9889 (L)
pulchra GRF98113
rhodoloma (B)
semicordata G2191
serrulata (B)
serrulata GRF9752
strigosa (B)*strigosa* GRF1912
urceolata GRF93146 (LM)
urceolata GRF97124 (red)
urceolata GRF98154 (red w/yellow)
sp. nov. (*umecta* ined.) (B)
Episcia (H,L,B,F)
xantha
cupreata hybrids mix
hybrid mix
Epithema
 - saxatile* (F,L)**Eucodonia** (D,F,P)
 - andrieuxii*
verticillata
verticillata 'Ehrenberg'
hybrid mix**Gasteranthus** (H)
crispus USBRG98-033
giganteus
lateralis
 - villosus*
wendlandianus GRF97154 (LM)
wendlandianus GRF97163
wendlandianus GRF98166
(w/red spots)**Gesneria** (H,F,L)
christii
 - citrina* WEK96154
cuneifolia
cuneifolia WEK96151
cuneifolia WEK96152
cuneifolia WEK96155
cuneifolia WEK96157
cuneifolia WEK96158
cuneifolia 'Esperanza'
cuneifolia 'Quebradillas'
cuneifolia 'Tom Talpey'
pedunculosa USBRG97-102 (S,T)
pedunculosa WEK96153 (S,T)
pumila
reticulata
reticulata WEK96164
reticulata 'El Yunque'
ventricosa (M)
viridiflora ssp. *sintenisi*
WEK96162 (T)
'Flashdance'
'Sundrop'**Gloxinia** (D)
gymnostoma (LM)
lindeniana (F,L)
nematanthodes (F,L)
perennis (LM)
perennis 'Insignis' (L)
purpurascens GRF9670 (F,L)
racemosa (L)
sylvatica (F,L)
sylvatica GRF9943 (Brazil)
sylvatica USBRG94-002 (Bolivia)
Haberlea (A,R)
ferdinandi-coburgii
rhodopensis

- Hemiboea** (D)
subcapitata (L)
- Heppiella** (D)
ulmifolia GRF95141 (L)
ulmifolia GRF98172
- Koellikeria** (D,F,P)
 - erinoides*
erinoides 'Red Satin'
- Kohleria** (D)
hirsuta (LM)
hirsuta USBRG96-163 (F,L)
hondensis (LM)
rugata USBRG95-010 (LM)
spicata (M)
hybrid mix
- Lysionotus** (LM)
pauciflorus var. *pauciflorus*
species
- Monophyllaea** (H,LM)
elongata
horsfieldii
- Monopyle**
macrocarpa GRF98117 (F,LM)
macrocarpa GRF94123
- Moussonia**
deppeana (M)
 - elegans* (M)
 - elegans* GRF9407
 - septentrionalis* G1201 (F,L)
- Napeanthus** (H)
costaricensis (F,P)
jelskii USBRG94-511 (F,P)
 - primulifolius* GRF9941 (P)
 - robustus* GRF9765 (L)
- Nautilocalyx**
adenosiphon (B,L)
colonensis (LM)
melittifolius (F,LM)
- Nematanthus**
australis (B)
corticola (B)
fissus (L)
fissus GRF9938
fornix (B)
fritschii (B)
 - jolyanus* (Sao Paulo) (B)
cf. *lanceolatus* AC2010
 - maculatus* (B)
serpens (B)
strigillosus AC1434 (B)
tessmannii GRF9904 (red calyx) (B)
tessmannii GRF9912 (red calyx)
wettsteinii (B)
 - sp. GRF3555 (B)
sp. 'Santa Teresa' (B)
sp. MP50
 - sp. nov. (*punctatus* ined.)
- Neomortonia** (B)
nummularia
- Opithandra** (A,R)
primuloides
- Ornithoboea**
wildeana (LM)
- Paliavana** (S,T)
prasinata
prasinata GRF732
prasinata GRF91126
 - prasinata* × *S. macropoda* MP944
 - prasinata* × *S. reitzii* MP949*sericiflora* AC2311
tenuiflora
werdermannii AC2310
- Paradrymonia**
ciliosa (L)
decurrens (L)
 - flava* (F,L)
 - lurida* (L)
- Parakohleria**
sp. GRF9778 (red, yellow below)
sp. GRF9780 (yellow)
sp. GRF97126
sp. GRF88105 (red) (L)
sp. GRF98144 (rose pink)
- Pentadenia**
angustata (B)
byrsina (B,L)
crassicaulis (B)
manabiana (B)
microsepala GRF1837 (B)
orientandina (LM)
rileyi GRF86243 (LM)
spathulata GRF9503 (LM)
strigosa GRF95154 (B)
strigosa GRF9777
zapotalana (B)
- Phinaea** (D,F,P)
albolineata
divaricata
multiflora
multiflora 'Tracery'
- Primulina**
 - tabacum* (F,R)
- Ramonda** (A,R)
myconi —
white
lavender
pink
clone G
myconi (upright rosette)
serbica
- Rhabdothermus**
 - solandri*
- Rhynchosoglossum** (H,L)
gardneri
obliquum
- Rhytidophyllum** (G,H,S,T)
auriculatum
leucomallon
tomentosum
villosulum
- Saintpaulia** (F,R)
 - diplotricha*
 - grandifolia*

- *intermedia*
- ionantha*
- shumensis*
- hybrid mix
- Sinningia (D)**
 - aggregata* (M)
 - aggregata* AC1461
 - aggregata* 'Pendulina' (B,L)
 - aff. *aggregata* (yellow) (M)
 - aghensis* (T)
 - aghensis* AC2356 (T)
 - allagophylla* (MT)
 - allagophylla* GRF9922
 - allagophylla* GRF9929
 - allagophylla* GRF9968
 - allagophylla* (yellow)
 - *araneosa* (F,L)
 - brasiliensis* (M)
 - brasiliensis* 'Verde'
 - brasiliensis* AC1314
 - bulbosa* (T)
 - calcaria* MP891 (F,L)
 - canescens* (F,L)
 - carangolensis* (M)
 - cardinalis* (F,L,M)
 - cardinalis* (compact) (F,L)
 - cardinalis* (dark calyx) (LM)
 - cardinalis* 'Innocent'
 - cardinalis* (pink)
 - conspicua* (F,L)
 - conspicua* GRF9942 (fragrant selection)
 - cooperi* (LM)
 - cooperi* AC1522
 - curtiflora* (T)
 - curtiflora* GRF9927
 - douglasii* GRF91188 (LM)
 - douglasii* GRF9936 (LM)
 - douglasii* (pink form) (M)
 - elator* AC1409 (M)
 - elator* GRF9963
 - eumorpha* Saltao (L)
 - eumorpha* (lavender) (F,L)
 - eumorpha* (pink)
 - eumorpha* (white)
 - gigantifolia* (LM)
 - glazioviana* (L)
 - harleyi* MP482 (F,L)
 - hatschbachii* (L)
 - *hirsuta* (F,L)
 - iarae* (F,L)
 - *incarnata* (S,MT)
 - insularis* (LM)
 - leopoldii* (F,L)
 - leucotricha* (F,L)
 - leucotricha* 'English' (F,L)
 - lindleyi* AC1501 (L)
 - lineata* (LM)
 - lineata* (highly spotted)
 - macropoda* (M)
 - *macropoda* (dwarf form) (L)
 - macrorrhiza* (T)
 - macrostachya* (LM)
 - macrostachya* MP262
 - magnifica* GRF91121 (pink) (LM)
 - magnifica* MP627 (pink)
 - magnifica* GRF91134 (red)
 - mauroana* (LM)
 - mauroana* GRF9964
 - micans* MP892 (LM)
 - nivalis* AC1460 (L)
 - nivalis* GRF9923
 - piresiana* (L)
 - *pusilla* (F,P)
 - *pusilla* 'White Sprite' (F,P)
 - reitzii* (M)
 - reitzii* GRF9914 (magenta)
 - rupicola* AC1511 (F,L)
 - sceptrum* (T)
 - sceptrum* AC2406 (T)
 - *schiffneri* (LM)
 - *schiffneri* GRF91163 (red reverse)
 - sellovii* (MT)
 - sellovii* GRF9919
 - sellovii* 'Bolivia' USBRG96-003
 - sellovii* 'Purple Rain'
 - speciosa* 'Cabo Frio' MP178 (F,L)
 - speciosa* 'Lavender Queen'
 - speciosa* 'Regina'
 - speciosa* AC1652
 - speciosa* (Chiltern Seed Co)
 - speciosa* AC1503
 - sulcata* (LM)
 - tubiflora* (S,MT)
 - villosa* (F,L)
 - warmingii* (T)
 - warmingii* GRF9921
 - sp. aff. *warmingii* from
 - Ilhabela MP631
 - sp. 'Esmeril' (L)
 - sp. 'Lanata' MP622 (L)
 - sp. 'Waechter' (LM)
 - cardinalis* 'Innocent' × *iarae* (LM)
 - glazioviana* × *leopoldii* F2 (LM)
 - speciosa* AC1503 × *speciosa*
 - 'Regina' (R)
 - eumorpha* hybrids mix (F,R)
 - "Hummingbird Mix"
 - 'Anne Crowley' (F,L)
 - 'Apricot Bouquet' × self (LM)
 - 'April Dawn' × self (F,P)
 - 'Beauty' × self (F,P)
 - 'Bewitched' × self (F,L)
 - 'Cheryl M.' × self (F,P)
 - 'Delta Fox' × self (F,P)
 - 'Diego' (red) (F,L)
 - 'Diego' (pink)
 - 'Dollbaby' (F,P)
 - 'Good Pink' × self (F,L)
 - 'Jubilee' × self (F,L)
 - 'Kretdorn Yellow' × self (L)
 - 'Krishna' × self (F,P)
 - 'Laura' × self (F,P)
 - 'Leo B.' × self (F,P)
 - 'Little Imp' (F,P)

- 'Maiden's Blush' × self (F,P)
- 'Mother of Pearl' × self (F,P)
- 'Mothers Day' × self (F,L)
- 'Pale Beauty' × self (L)
- 'Pink Ice' (F,P)
- 'Pink Imp' (F,P)
- 'Pure Pink' × self (F,P)
- 'Purple Crest' × self (F,P)
- 'Rosebells' × self (F,L)
- 'Ruby Red' × self (F,P)
- 'Scarlet Red' × self (F,P)
- 'Scarlet Sunset' (F,P)
- 'Silhouette' × self (F,P)
- 'Star Eyes' (F,P)
- 'Super Red' × self (F,P)
- 'Tampa Bay Beauty' × self (L)
- 'Virgil' × self (LM)
- 'Whimsey' × self (F,P)
- 'Angora Love' × 'Margaret' (L)
- 'Cherry Chips' × 'Super Orange' F2 (F,P)
- hybrid miniature mix (F,P)
- pink hybrid miniature mix (F,P)
- Sinningia speciosa* hybrids (F,R)**
 - blue mix
 - mini lavender
 - lavender/purple
 - pink
 - purple
 - red
 - rose
 - white
 - orchid/purple mix
 - pink mix
 - pink/white mix
 - purple w/spots
 - red mix
 - red w/spots
 - white w/red spots
 - 'California Minis'
 - Charles Lawn hybrid mix
 - Early Giant mix
 - hybrid mix
 - blue slipper
 - lavender slipper
 - pink slipper
 - red slipper
 - purple slipper
 - mixed slipper
 - pink dwarf
 - Small's dwarf mix
 - white dwarf slipper
- Smithiantha* (D)**
 - aurantiaca* (F,L)
 - canarina* GRF9105 (F,LM)
 - lauri* GRF9117 (F,L)
 - multiflora* (F,LM)
 - *multiflora* GRF9121 (F,LM)
 - *multiflora* GRF9122 (F,LM)
 - zebrina* GRF9104 (M)
 - 'Little One' (F,L)
 - hybrid mix (F,L)

Streptocarpus

- baudertii* (F,R)
- buchananii* (B)
- caeruleus* (R)
- candidus* (F,R)
- candidus*/Ngome, Natal
- caulescens* (F,LM)
- *compressus* (U)
- confusus* (U)
- confusus* ssp. *confusus* (U)
- cooksonii* (U)
- cooksonii* (dark purple)
- cooperi* (U)
- cyanandrus* (F,P)
- *cyaneus* ssp. *long-tomii* (R)
- cyaneus* (blue) (R)
- cyaneus* (blue/long corolla)
- cyaneus* (blue/short corolla)
- cyaneus* (lilac)
- daviesii* (F,U)
- denticulatus* (U)
- dunnii* (U)
- eylesii* (U)
- fanniniiae* (R)
- fasciatus* (R)
- *fenestra-dei* (R)
- floribundus* (R)
- formosus* (R)
- formosus*/E. Cape, Transkei
- gardenii* (F,L)
- *gardenii*/Weza, S. Natal
- *glandulosissimus* (B)
- goetzei* (U)
- grandis* (U)
- grandis* (blue form)
- haygarthii* (F,U)
- haygarthii*/Mkambati, Transkei
- holstii* (B,L)
- johannis* (F,R)
- johannis*/Komga, E. Cape
- sp. aff. *johannis* (F,R)
- kentaniensis* MBG2335-60 (R)
- kentaniensis* (N. Kei River)
- *kentaniensis* (S. Kei River)
- kirkii* (F,L)
- meyeri* (F,R)
- *meyeri*/SE Transvaal (R)
- meyeri*/NE Cape Province
- micelmoriei* (U)
- modestus* (R)
- *modestus*/Magwa Falls, Transkei (R)
- molweniensis* (U)
- *molweniensis* subsp. *eschowicus*
- muscosus* (L)
- nobilis* (M)
- pallidiflorus* (F,LM)
- parviflorus* (R)
- parviflorus* (mauve)
- *parviflorus* (white) (R)
- parviflorus* (white/mauve)
- pentherianus* (F,L)
- pole-evansii* (R)

polyanthus (F,L)
polyanthus subsp. *comptonii*
polyanthus subsp. *polyanthus*
polyanthus subsp. *polyanthus*/lg fl
polyanthus subsp. *polyanthus*/Valley
of 1000 Hills, Natal
polyanthus subsp. *verecundus*
porphyrostachys (U)
primulifolius (F,R)
primulifolius (dark blue)

- Port St. John, Transkei
- primulifolius* /Mt. Sullivan, Transkei
- primulifolius* /Bullolo Rvr, Transkei
- primulifolius* /Valley of 1000 Hills
- prolixus* (F,U)
- pumilus* (F,P)
- rexii* (F,L,R)
- *rexii* (blue)
- *rexii* (blue) Transkei
- rexii* (white)
- rexii* (pale blue/long corolla)
- rexii* (white/blue mix)
- rimicola* (F,P)
- roseoalbus* (F,R)
- saundersii* (U)
- saxorum* (B)
- silvaticus* (R)
- stomandrus* (F,L)
- thompsonii* (B,L)
- thysanotus* (B,L)
- trabeculatus* (U)
- vandeleurii* (U)
- variabilis* (F,R)
- wendlandii* (U)
- wilmsii* (U)
- *wilmsii*/Graskop
- wilmsii*/Long Tom Pass
- 'Athena' × self (R)
- 'Bethan' × self (R)
- 'Bristol's Popsicle' × self (R)
- 'Canterbury Surprise' × self (F,R)
- 'Demeter' × self (R)
- 'Falling Stars' × self (R)
- 'Georgette' × self (R)
- 'Gloria' × self (R)
- 'Ice Castle' × self (R)
- 'Karen' × self (R)
- 'Kitten Face' × self (R)

- 'Midnight Flame' × self (R)
- 'Mini Pink Fu' × self (R)
- 'Party Doll' × self (R)
- 'Pegasus' × self (R)
- 'Royal' (red) (R)
- 'Royal' (white/pink stripes) (R)
- 'Sandra' × self (R)
- 'Space Dust' × self (R)
- 'Spooky' × self (R)
- 'Strawberry Crush' × self (R)
- 'Suzie' × self (R)
- 'Thalia' × self (R)
- 'Ulysses' × self (R)
- New Zealand hybrid mix (F,R)
- rexii* hybrids (F,R)
- Wiesmoor hybrids (F,R)
- hybrid mix (F,R)
- hybrid, lt blue/dk blue lines (R)
- hybrid, lg burgundy (R)
- hybrid, lg purple (R)
- hybrid, lg white (R)
- streptocarpella* hybrids (B)

Titanotrichum

oldhamii (propagules)

Trichantha

- ambigua* (B)
- ambigua* 'El Yunque' WEK96163
- brenneri* (LM)
- citrina* (B)
- dodsonii* (LM)
- kucyniakii* GRF93166 (MT)
- minutiflora* GRF9552 (LM)
- purpureovittata* (B,L)
- sp. nov. (*molinae* ined.) GRF98159

***Vanhouttea* (S,T)**

calcarata GRF3026

lanata

- *lanata* AC2405
- sp. nov. AC2403
- 'Bruegger' (S,T)
- 'Saint Hilaire' (S,T)

Mixed alpine gesneriads

Mixed gesneriads

- denotes LIMITED quantities

(A)	Alpine or cool greenhouse.	(LM)	Low to medium height.
(B)	Suitable for hanging basket.	(M)	Medium height; 1 to 2 feet.
(D)	Has dormant period, forming tubers or rhizomes.	(MT)	Medium to tall.
(F)	Blooms readily in fluorescent light.	(P)	Petite or miniature; not more than 6 inches tall.
(G)	Recommended for greenhouses; requires space.	(R)	Rosette in form.
(H)	Requires humidity and warmth.	(S)	Requires sun to bloom.
(L)	Low growing; not more than 12".	(T)	Tall plants; generally over 3 feet.
		(U)	Unifoliate or single leaf.

Chirita 'Kitaguni'

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The plant that was awarded "Best in Show" at the 2001 AGGS Convention in Kansas City is a wonderful recent hybrid by Toshijiro Okuto. Seeds from his cross, *Chirita eburnea* (yellow) \times *C. sinensis* 'Latifolia Dwarf', were generously donated to the AGGS Seed Fund, and I was fortunate to be able to purchase a packet of them in mid-1998.

Three of the seeds germinated, and before long it was apparent that one of them had delicate silver patterning on its leaves. The other two, which had plain green leaves, could be called *Chirita* 'Nakako', which was the F₁ name originally given to this cross by Toshijiro. *Chirita* 'Kitaguni' is the only known plant from this cross with silver patterning.

I treat my entire collection fairly uniformly in order to reduce the time needed to care for the plants. With a full-time (and then some) software-development job, a busy personal life (including choir and other church related activities), I have no time to cater to picky plants! My plants have to learn to thrive on a little benign neglect, or join someone else's collection. With the exception of a few wick-watered plants (less than 1%), everything is treated pretty much the same...

- * Soil: a very small pot of Fisher's formula—a peat based mix that includes a component of sterilized potting soil as well as some added lime—I use this formula for almost all of my plants (except those that are wick watered)
- * Fertilizer: whatever is handy... usually a 20-20-20 formulation
- * Light: two-tube fluorescent fixture—one grow light and one cool white; the lights are run for twelve hours at night, to better control the temperature
- * Water: warm Toronto tap water, straight out of the tap, placed into an individual saucer (via a garden spreader-sprayer) every five days. My husband Alan helps me with this—he puts the water in each saucer and I follow along an hour or so later, emptying, adding more water, grooming, etc.
- * Location: a cool shelf with good air circulation is preferred for this hybrid
- * Temperature: 18 to 27°C, controlled by air-conditioning

When the plant bloomed for the first time in September 1999, I was pleasantly surprised with its blooming habit. The flowers are borne on long arching stalks. They appear from large clamshell bracts, similar to those of the seed parent. The flowers themselves are clear yellow, with a darker yellow throat and visible darker veining. The flower shape and size is very similar to the lilac-colored flowers of the pollen parent. There are multiple flower stems with a number of flowers on each stem that emerge from each clamshell bract. The flower stems have a branching habit, similar to that of *Chirita* 'Hotei'. The clamshell bracts are long lasting, and usually remain attached until all of the flowers have finished blooming.



Chirita 'Kitaguni' flower close-up
(photo by Julie Mavity-Hudson)

This plant was first exhibited in the new hybrids class at the AGGS 2000 Convention in Tampa Bay. It received 91 points, and was awarded a blue ribbon. At the time, the judges noted that it "brought out the characteristics of both parents beautifully". They also observed that it had "very ornamental bracts" and that it "appears to be an extremely heavy bloomer". At the time, I asked Toshijiro if he would name the plant, and he chose 'Kitaguni' which translates to "north country", in honor of the plant's adopted homeland—Canada.

Since the very same plant was once again coming into bloom in time for the 2001 Convention (a summer bloomer, this hybrid blooms from late June through September), I planned to pack it up with a number of its "friends". Fortunately Alan and I were planning to travel by van, as the plant was now full grown and beyond airplane carry-on size at 18 inches in diameter in all directions! It made its way to convention in a vertically extended legal-sized computer paper box. I used an "African Violet Support Ring" to provide extra stability to the leaves, and placed the pot inside another identically sized pot that was hot glued to the bottom of the box. Since the plant filled the whole box, it did not have any immediate traveling companions! It made the journey (an 18-hour drive with a three-day stopover at the mid-way point to visit my relatives) without incident, despite some rather rough terrain! Since there was nearly a whole week before the show, I packed a four-foot long tabletop light stand in order to provide supplementary light to the potential show plants. One interesting "problem" I had was that some of the plants grew noticeably during the three-day stopover. One of them, a *Chirita sclerophylla*, grew its bloom-stalk so much taller that I was unable to put the lid on its box for the end leg of the journey! Next time, I pack some extra boxing material, the glue gun

A Scandinavian Odyssey in Search of Gesneriads

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It was Stockholm's worst thunderstorm in twenty years. As the skies opened and the rain fell, we were in a small greenhouse judging the second Swedish Gesneriad Show put on by the AGGS Chapter, *Gesneriasterna*. As the rain changed to hail and the lightning flashed and the thunder pealed and the skies became even darker, the sense of drama of being in a steel-framed glass house was not lost on me. My fellow judges, Ben Paternoster of Long Island and Chair of the Shows and Judging Committee, and Vivian Scheans of Oregon, a senior judge and member of numerous South American GRF study trips, carried on oblivious to the tempest outside.



Judges Robert Hall, Ben Paternoster, Vivian Scheans

A few months before this show, AGGS member Ingrid Lindskog of Umeå, Sweden, had sent an email to the Gesneriphiles Internet Discussion Group requesting volunteers to judge the show her chapter was planning. So it was that the three of us—Vivian, Ben and I—traveled to Stockholm in August 2001. Ingrid had arranged everything for us, and we stayed at a good hotel in downtown Stockholm close to public transportation. The first day there she introduced us to Swedish cuisine that seems to rely heavily on potatoes, herring, salmon and dill, along with some excellent Swedish beers. She then put us to work judging the 106 entries that made up the show... and that was how we found ourselves in the middle of the storm.

Luckily all the Gesneriads, the exhibitors, and the judges were spared the ravages of the storm and the weather soon changed. The sun eventually returned to show us the bucolic splendor that was the Bergianska Botanic Garden. Tended by a myriad of gardeners, the outdoor displays were immaculate. There also were many beautiful greenhouses filled with plants from different climates: Mediterranean, South African, etc., and the show was held in one of the smaller, empty greenhouses that was quite old and historic. The



Chirita 'Silver Surfer' grown by Vera Hedlund awarded Best in Show

greenhouse provided great natural light, helpful to judge all those entries, but it also generated quite a bit of heat. Although the plants held up nicely, the people wilted somewhat.

The show committee consisted of Maike Lundberg, Gertrud Sandberg, Ewa Ström and Anita Åsberg. In the usual understated and efficient Swedish way, everything was organized and we set right to work. Two highlights of the show were, of course, the Best in Show entry of *Chirita* 'Silver Surfer' grown by Vera Hedlund, as well as the Second-Best in Show entry of *Chirita* 'Aiko' grown by Siwie Rohne. There was an incredible display table from the Uppsala Botanic Gardens set up by Åsa Tysk. It contained, among other



Unusual *Kohleria* hybrid
exhibited by Eva Lindström



Chirita 'Aiko' grown by Siwie Rohne
awarded Second-Best in Show

All photos in Sweden courtesy of Robert Hall and Ben Paternoster

plants, *Corytoplectus capitatus* with its magnificent red inflorescence and an unusual cockscomb projection on its leaves, the nicest specimen of *Cobananthus calochlamys* I have ever seen, a beautifully grown *Saintpaulia grotei*, and an unusual *Kohleria* species with lines in the flower.

In the show, Eva Lindström exhibited a *Kohleria* hybrid bearing unusual flowers with red stipples and a frilly edge. As Canadian and European Union laws allow private parties to send houseplant cuttings through the mail, I hope to do some trades with Eva next spring and to get a rhizome of it as it is quite beautiful. Yet another unusual plant was *Eucodonia* 'Maiké' which, instead of slipper-shaped flowers, had flowers that were bell-shaped. I should have gotten a rhizome of it, darn! I must remember to include this plant in my future trades with the Swedish growers.

Smithiantha 'Tropical Sunset', exhibited by our hostess, was a beauty and had lovely foliage. How does Ingrid keep the leaves so pristine? *Sinningia* 'Island Silver', also grown by Ingrid, was in beautiful bloom. It was fitting that Ben was there to judge this plant as it was hybridized and named in honour of his Long Island Chapter's twenty-fifth anniversary.

During our stay, we made time to visit a commercial greenhouse just outside the gardens, and there we found quite a selection of Gesneriads for sale. Among them was *Aeschynanthus* 'Scooby Doo', a most unusual plant that has dark green leaves that curl back on themselves giving a chain link effect.

We were also treated to an al fresco dinner at Anita Åsberg's home where we saw her plant setup that included every available window space plus extensive light gardens. We should all have such an understanding spouse! I now correspond with Anita, and I have already traded plants with her through the mail. I am also trying to entice Anita to come to the convention in New Jersey next July.

A short train ride from Stockholm took us up to Uppsala where Åsa Tysk of the Uppsala Botanic Gardens hosted us. She gave us a private tour of greenhouses that are not accessible to the public including the water lily greenhouse which is quite special as it contains three species of water lilies from the Amazon. Her pride and joy, however, is an impressively extensive and well-grown collection of *Saintpaulia* species. There were many other



Exhibitors, show workers, and judges enjoying lunch in the greenhouse



Ingrid Lindskog taking a moment to stop and smell the Gesneriads

interesting gesneriads such as *Corytoplectus vittatus*, *Allopectus cristatus*, and a large *Rhytidophyllum* species, among others.

We were also given a tour of Linnaeus' summer residence and his city home in Uppsala by Helena Eriksson who is a research scientist by trade and a gesneriad grower and beer brewing and tasting judge by choice. Carl Linnaeus (1707-1778) was the man who organized the animal and plant kingdoms in his *Systema Naturae* and is, therefore, the father of the class, order, genera and species systematic units that we still use today and which often causes such heated debate on the Gesneriphiles Discussion Group!

After the Stockholm show ended, we trooped off by train to Göteborg where we had an unforgettable visit to that city's Botanic Garden. We were thrilled to see *Ramonda serbica*, *Briggsia muscicola*, *Opithandra primuloides*, *Jancaea heldreichii*, *Rhytidophyllum villosum*, three species of *Corallodiscus*, and other Gesneriads too numerous to mention. We met one of the botanists and discussed with him the correct names of some of the specimens. He was a most affable man who seemed pleased to meet us and discuss the plants. Despite his lack of time, he invited us into the back greenhouse and then told us to help ourselves to anything. This was the ultimate smorgasbord!

The group separated here with Ben flying home, Vivian and Ingrid continuing on to Skane, and my companion, Herb, and I off to Denmark and then Iceland. If you see us all huddling at the New Jersey convention in July, we most likely will be reminiscing about all our adventures.

In Denmark the search for Gesneriads continued. In between visiting castles, churches and restaurants, we toured Copenhagen's Botanic Garden where we saw *Haberlea rhodopensis* in flower as well as many *Ramondas* in the rockery. In the main greenhouse we found a grouping of Gesneriads that extended for almost 30 feet. There were many of the common varieties as well as *Rhytidophyllum exsertum* and *R. tomentosum*, *Drymonia* and *Sinningia* species, and others too numerous to mention. Although it was most impressive to see a public greenhouse have such a large space devoted to Gesneriads, the specimens were not growing in their optimal environment as that area of the greenhouse was of low light intensity, very hot and dripping from the high humidity. The *Episcias* and *Nautilocalyx* were beautiful, but

the Sinningias and others would have benefited from being in another part of the greenhouse. As we all know, just because they are Gesneriads does not mean that all the genera will thrive in the same environment. A useful task would be for one of the more knowledgeable growers to visit and offer suggestions on plant identification and to explain the specific growing requirements for the different genera.

We then traveled to Iceland—the name is a misnomer as it is anything but icy. Bathed by the warm Gulf Stream, its climate is surprisingly moderate and walking around the capital city of Reykjavik reminded me of a mini Vancouver in the spring. Once we left the city limits, however, the topography changed and reminded me of my sojourn on Baffin Island in Canada's Arctic with the tundra-like flat landscape and towering, dark, mysterious mountains in the distance. Iceland is a fascinating country to explore.

In the Icelandic Botanic Garden, the sole Gesneriad found was *Ramonda myconi* growing in an extensive alpine rockery. We did find other Gesneriads for sale in commercial greenhouses, and we saw many growing in the windows of homes in Reykjavik. It must be a challenge growing them on window ledges in the dead of winter when there is such a dearth of light.

Like all good things, the trip had to come to an end. It was a wonderful visit that was recreational, educational and productive. It allowed me to meet new friends, to see many previously unknown gesneriads, and to learn how others grow the plants that we have come to enjoy. The Swedish growers put on an excellent show and their pride in showing us what they could do was evident. They were very welcoming of us and they appreciated the suggestions and show critique by Ben. I highly recommend attending their next show and perhaps extending your visit to carry out your own gesneriad odyssey.



Uppsala Botanic Gardens display table arranged by Åsa Tysk.

Back L-R: *Kohleria* sp., *Corytoplectus capitatus*, *Chirita flavimaculata*, *Chirita eburnea*
 Front L-R: *Episcia cupreata*, *Cobonanthus calochlamys*, *Nautilocalyx melittifolius*, *Saintpaulia grotei*

Welcome Back for Gesneriads in the Garden State

Quentin Schlieder <QSchlieder@MorrisParks.net>
PO Box 1472, Morristown, NJ 07962

The Flamingo Flock, aka the Frelinghuysen Arboretum Chapter of AGGS, is planning a reprise of its successful "Garden State in '88" Convention, but this time we'll be closer to the nest—in Morristown, New Jersey, near the Frelinghuysen Arboretum. "Gesneriads in the Garden State II" will celebrate the diversity of New Jersey and will give glimpses of its past and future.

The Convention will be held at the Headquarters Plaza Hotel located just off the historic Morristown Green. This is a deluxe, independently owned and operated hotel in the European tradition with a comfortable and intimate setting, and it will be almost exclusively dedicated to the Society's Convention. Interstates 287 and 80 provide easy access to Morristown, and parking at the hotel is complimentary for convention guests. Midtown express trains from Penn Station in Manhattan and buses from the Port Authority Bus Terminal are also convenient, as is shuttle transportation from Newark International Airport.

The hotel's central location also affords easy accessibility to the shops, restaurants and cultural sites located near The Green. To many, Morristown conjures up George Washington and the American Revolution which this year will be celebrating the 225th Anniversary of its Morristown encampment. Morristown National Historical Park includes Washington's Headquarters at the Jacob Ford Mansion, only about a mile from the hotel. Morristown was strategically located and is often considered the Military Capital of the Revolution. Washington and his Continental Army spent the winters of 1777 and 1779-80 in Morristown, protected by the Watchung Mountains, but in proximity to New York which had been occupied by the British. In these turbulent times, this will be a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with the nation's rich history and roots.

But Morristown also was at the Center of the American Industrial Revolution due to its location near New York and its strategic materials, especially iron. The Whippany River, which flows through the town, afforded water power for a thriving industrial base. Morristown also benefited from important road networks, railroad and canals, and in the 1800's ushered in a century of growth and prosperity. The steam engine for the first transatlantic steam-powered vessel, the Savannah, and the first successful demonstration of the telegraph occurred at nearby Speedwell. By the late 1880's Morristown became a fashionable summer colony for the rich and famous. Among others, Rockefeller and Vanderbilt ushered in Morristown's gilded age constructing impressive homes, and some of these, like the Frelinghuysen family home, Whippany Farm, are preserved today.

Scheduled trips during Convention will provide opportunities to experience some of this rich history and will include visits to The Frelinghuysen Arboretum, Willowood Arboretum, and the Historic Village of Waterloo. Special exhibits and events are planned exclusively for Society members at some of these sites. One of the trip highlights will contrast dramatically with Morris County's verdant hills—a visit to Liberty State Park in Jersey City,

New Jersey, and a harbor cruise on the "Spirit of the Hudson" past American icons like the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island and the New York City Skyline.

Our lectures will feature gesneriad enthusiasts from Malaysia and Brazil as well as a noted botanist from the Smithsonian Institution and a talented commercial grower from upstate New York. We are sure you will enjoy their scheduled programs as well as speaking with them informally throughout the convention sharing Gesneriad experiences.

Plan to arrive by Tuesday in time to attend the opening reception hosted by the Frelinghuysen Chapter. You won't want to miss this special event; details will be included with your registration confirmation. Our entire Convention Committee has been hard at work preparing for another successful convention—Maryjane Evans is planning a spectacular plant sale while Jeanne Katzenstein has been encouraging participation from all conventioners to create a memorable flower show.

Catch the spirit and join the flock. You definitely want to be an early bird for the plant sale opening, so plan ahead and register now for a thoroughly enriching and enjoyable convention in Morristown, New Jersey!

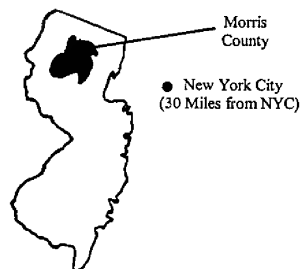


Members of the Frelinghuysen Arboretum Chapter at the Kansas City Convention inviting everyone to join the flamingo flock at Convention 2002 in New Jersey

Visit www.aggs.org for 2002 Convention information as well as for online registration.

For information on New Jersey, go to www.visitnj.org

For a virtual walking tour of historic Morristown and other local information, visit www.morristourism.org/



46th ANNUAL AGGS CONVENTION — 2002

Tuesday, July 2nd, to Sunday, July 7th, 2002

Convention Registration Form

Mail to Convention Registrar:

**John Evans, 194 Morris Tnpk
Randolph, NJ 07869-2820**

or Register online at

www.aggs.org

Please print:

Name(s) _____

Name(s) to be printed on badge(s) _____

Address _____ City _____

State/Prov _____ Country _____ Zip/Post Code _____

Phone (____) _____ E-mail _____

AGGS Membership # (top line of current mailing label) _____

Category: ☐ Individual ☐ Family ☐ Sustaining ☐ Research ☐ Life

☐ AGGS Chapter Affiliation _____

☐ AGGS Chapter President _____

☐ AGGS Officer/Director (specify) _____

☐ AGGS Chairperson/Staff (specify) _____

☐ Convention Chairperson (specify) _____

☐ Commercial Affiliation (nursery/greenhouse name) _____

☐ Attending my first AGGS Convention

☐ Arriving on or before July 1? Date of arrival _____

☐ Might have entries in Flower Show (data helpful for pre-entries process)

☐ Special diet needs. Please indicate _____

All registrations must be postmarked by June 1, 2002. After that date registrations will be accepted on a space-available basis and will be charged a late fee of \$25. Registrations postmarked by April 30, 2002, will entitle registrant to early admission to the plant sale on Thursday, July 4. Registration fee includes registration packet and lectures except the Judges Training School for which there is a separate registration.

Please make checks or money orders payable, in US\$, on a US bank to: AGGS

Or, charge my ☐ VISA, or ☐ MasterCard the total amount of \$ _____

Card # _____ Exp Date _____ Signature _____

Event	No.	Cost \$US	Total
Individual Registration	_____ @	\$30.00 =	\$ _____
Guest or Family (incl. spouse/children)	_____	\$10.00	\$ _____
Tuesday, July 2, Opening Social hosted by the Frelinghuysen Arboretum Gesneriad Society celebrating our 25th year as an AGGS Chapter .. _____			
Thursday, July 4, tour of Willowood Arboretum starting with continental breakfast, visit and box lunch at Waterloo Historic Village			
_____ Smoked turkey/cheese sandwich	_____ @	\$30.00 =	\$ _____
_____ Veggie sandwich			
Friday, July 5, Continental Breakfast w/fresh fruit	_____ @	\$15.00 =	\$ _____
Friday, July 5, Membership Luncheon	_____ @	\$25.00 =	\$ _____
_____ Salad with grilled shrimp			
_____ Caesar salad with chicken			
Friday, July 5, Flower Show Awards Banquet ...	_____ @	\$40.00 =	\$ _____
_____ Chicken breast			
_____ Beef fillet			
Saturday, July 6, Breakfast	_____ @	\$15.00 =	\$ _____
Saturday, July 6, Luncheon	_____ @	\$25.00 =	\$ _____
Saturday, July 6, trip to Liberty State Park for Spirit Sightseeing Cruise with appetizers, visit to the Frelinghuysen Arboretum and supper			
_____ @	\$50.00 =	\$ _____	
Late Charge (if postmarked after June 1, 2002) .	_____ @	\$25.00 =	\$ _____
Total Amount Enclosed		\$ _____	

Be sure to register by April 30 for early admittance to plant sales!

- Please send: ☐ Driving Directions and Map
☐ Shuttle Options from Newark Airport
☐ Bus/Train Options from NYC
☐ Flower Show Pre-Entries form
☐ New Jersey Tourism Information (will be sent by NJ Visitors Bureau)

Will you volunteer a few hours of your time to help with staffing during convention?

Hospitality Center:	_____ (day)	_____ (time/s)
Assist at Plant Sales:	_____ (day)	_____ (time/s)
Host at Flower Show:	_____ (day)	_____ (time/s)
Distribute Table Favors and Take Meal Tickets:	_____ (day)	_____ (time/s)

Convention Chairpersons

<i>AGGS Convention</i>	Helen Freidberg (781-891-9164) 11 Arrowhead Road, Weston, MA 02193 <HelenDF@aol.com>
<i>AGGS Awards</i>	Colleen Turley
<i>AGGS Endowment Fund Auction</i>	Paul Susi
<i>AGGS Shows & Judging</i>	Ben Paternoster
<i>Local Convention</i>	Quentin Schlieder (973-326-7610) P.O. Box 1472, Morristown, NJ 07962-1472 <QSchlieder@MorrisParks.net>
<i>Local Coordinator & Hotel Liaison</i>	Jeanne Katzenstein
<i>Artwork & Pamphlet</i>	Quentin Schlieder & Convention Team
<i>Convention Packet</i>	Jan Murasko
<i>Flamingo Fest Opening Reception</i>	Quentin Schlieder
<i>Hospitality & Volunteers</i>	Norma & Norman Chenkin Betty & Jerry Vriens
<i>Plant Sales</i>	Maryjane Evans & Jill Fischer
<i>Publicity</i>	Quentin Schlieder
<i>Registration</i>	John Evans (973-895-3444) <registrar2002@aol.com> 194 Morris Turnpike, Randolph, NJ 07869-2820
<i>Speakers</i>	Carol Ann Bonner
<i>Special Events/Transportation</i>	Clarence Eich
<i>Table Favors</i>	Nancy Leck
<i>Flower Show</i>	Jeanne Katzenstein (973-627-2755) 1 Hallvard Terrace, Rockaway, NJ 07866-4211 <jkatzenste@aol.com>
<i>Artistic & Show Schedule</i>	Lois Buschke, Karyn Cichocki, Jeanne Katzenstein
<i>Classification & Plant Inspection</i>	Bob & Dee Stewart
<i>Educational & Commercial & Artistic Reservations</i>	Rebecca Gmucs <jrgh@optonline.net> 4 Kingswood Drive, Orangeburg, NY 10962
<i>Entries</i>	Karyn Cichocki, Carolyn Conlin-Lane, Alan Lane
<i>Judges & Clerks</i>	Arleen Dewell
<i>Placement & Staging</i>	Penny Wezel
<i>Plant Maintenance</i>	Frank Kahn

2002 AGGS Convention Program

"Gesneriads in the Garden State II"

Tuesday, July 2

- 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. AGGS Board of Directors Meeting
3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Convention Registration and Information;
Hospitality Center opens
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Convention Registration and Information
7:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. "Flamingo Fest" Entries (details w/registration confirmation)
8:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. Opening Reception and "Flamingo Fest" hosted by the
Frelinghuysen Arboretum Gesneriad Society

Wednesday, July 3

- 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Convention Registration and Information
(Flower Show pre-entries forms accepted)
9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Judges Training (pre-registration & AGGS membership
required)
Session 1 — Novice
Session 1 — Intermediate/Advanced
Judges Special Workshop
11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. Chapters and Affiliates Meeting with the AGGS President and
C&A Chair (open to chapter/affiliate presidents or delegates)
1:00 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. Judges Training, Session 2, All Levels
3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Judges Interest Group Meeting
3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Convention Registration (show pre-entries forms accepted)
4:15 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Lecture #1: "Gesneriads in Brazil"
—Mauro Peixoto of São Paulo, Brazil
5:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Newsletter Editors Meeting
7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Judges Test
7:00 p.m. - 8:15 p.m. Convention Registration (show pre-entries forms accepted)
8:15 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. Gesneriad Hybridizers Association Meeting (open to everyone)
Guest Speaker: Bob Counsell of North Somerset, England

Thursday, July 4

- 7:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Convention Registration (final submission of pre-entries forms)
8:00 a.m. Buses leave for tour
8:00 a.m. - 1:45 p.m. Tour of Willowwood Arboretum starting with continental
breakfast; visit to Waterloo Historic Village with lunch
1:45 p.m. Buses arrive back at hotel
3:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Frances Batcheller Endowment Fund Auction donations
accepted
3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Flower Show Entries
6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Convention Registration and Information; Auction open;
Seed Fund, AGGS Store, Publication sales
7:30 p.m. - 8:45 p.m. Lecture #2: "Looking Back at *Gesneria*"
—Dr. Laurence E. Skog of the Smithsonian Institution
9:30 p.m. Early Entry to Plant Sales
10:00 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. Plant Sales

Friday, July 5

6:30 a.m. - 6:45 a.m.	Flower Show late entries (with written permission of Show Chair)
7:00 a.m. - 7:30 a.m.	Continental Breakfast for judges, clerks and show personnel who should include this meal with their registration
7:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Flower Show Judging
8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	Continental Breakfast
9:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.	Convention Registration and Information; Plant Sales open; Auction open; Seed Fund, AGGS Store, and Publication sales
11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Internet Communications/Gesneriophiles Meeting
12:00 noon - 2:00 p.m.	Annual Membership Meeting and Luncheon (President Susan Grose presiding); Election of Directors; Awards of Appreciation
2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	AGGS Board of Directors Meeting
2:15 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Flower Show and Plant Sales open; Auction open
3:45 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Lecture #3: "Growing Gesneriads in Hanging Baskets" —Paul Sorano of Lyndon Lyon Greenhouses
6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	Cocktail Hour
7:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.	Flower Show Awards Banquet (Awards Chair: Colleen Turley); Frances Batcheller Endowment Fund Live Auction (Auction Chair: Paul Susi)
10:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m.	Flower Show and Plant Sales open

Saturday, July 6

6:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m.	Flower Show open to photographers
7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.	Flower Show Judges Critique (for judges and clerks who participated in the 2002 Flower Show)
8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	Breakfast honoring Host Chapter, AGGS Chapters and Members-at-Large
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Convention Registration and Information
9:00 a.m. - 11:30 p.m.	Auction open; Seed Fund, AGGS Store, Publication sales
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Plant Sales open
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Flower Show open
9:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Lecture #4: "Gesneriads in Peninsular Malaysia" —Leong Tuck Lock of Ipoh, Malaysia
11:30 a.m.	Silent Auction closes
12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.	Luncheon honoring AGGS Commercial Growers; Frances Batcheller Endowment Fund Live Plant Auction
1:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Final Plant Sales
1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Auction settlement and wrap-up
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Flower Show and Plant Sales breakdown
4:00 p.m.	Buses leave for tour
4:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	Spirit of the Hudson sightseeing cruise; visit to the Frelinghuysen Arboretum for summer supper and socializing

Sunday, July 7

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon	AGGS Board of Directors Meeting
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AGGS Convention Show Schedule

"Gesneriads in the Garden State II"

July 5 and 6, 2002

Entries will be accepted on Thursday, July 4, from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Late entries may be received on Friday morning, from 6:30 a.m. to 6:45 a.m. only by prior arrangement and with the written permission of the Flower Show Chairperson.

Division I — HORTICULTURE

Saintpaulia permitted only in Classes 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 40, 44, 46, and 47

SECTION A — New World Gesneriads in Flower — Tuberous

- Class 1 *Sinningia speciosa* species or hybrids (upright or pendent flowers)
- Class 2 Other *Sinningia* species with rosette growth pattern
- Class 3 Other *Sinningia* species with upright growth pattern
- Class 4 Other *Sinningia* hybrids with rosette growth pattern
- Class 5 Other *Sinningia* hybrids with upright growth pattern
- Class 6 Other *Sinningia* species or hybrids (largest leaf less than 1" long)
- Class 7 Other tuberous gesneriads

SECTION B — New World Gesneriads in Flower — Rhizomatous

- Class 8 *Achimenes*
- Class 9 *Gloxinia*
- Class 10 *Kohleria*
- Class 11 *Smithiantha*
- Class 12 Other rhizomatous gesneriads less than 5" in any dimension
- Class 13 Other rhizomatous gesneriads

SECTION C — New World Gesneriads in Flower — Fibrous-Rooted

- Class 14 *Codonanthe*, *×Codonanthus*
- Class 15 *Columnea*, *Dalbergaria*, *Pentadenia*, *Trichantha*
- Class 16 *Episcia*, *Alsobia*
- Class 17 *Gesneria*
- Class 18 *Nematanthus*
- Class 19 Other fibrous-rooted gesneriads

SECTION D — Old World Gesneriads in Flower

- Class 20 *Aeschynanthus*
- Class 21 *Chirita* species
- Class 22 *Chirita* hybrids
- Class 23 *Petrocosmea*
- Class 24 *Saintpaulia* species
- Class 25 *Saintpaulia* hybrids or cultivars more than 10" in diameter (limit two entries per exhibitor)
- Class 26 *Saintpaulia* hybrids or cultivars 6" to 10" in diameter (limit 2 entries per exhibitor)
- Class 27 *Saintpaulia* hybrids or cultivars less than 6" in diameter (limit two entries per exhibitor)
- Class 28 *Saintpaulia* trailer (limit two entries per exhibitor)
- Class 29 *Streptocarpus*, caulescent (ssp. *Streptocarpella*)
- Class 30 *Streptocarpus* species, acaulescent
- Class 31 *Streptocarpus* hybrids, acaulescent
- Class 32 Other Old World gesneriads

SECTION E — Gesneriads Grown for Ornamental Qualities Other Than Flowers

Decorative fruit and calyces are permitted, but no flowers or buds showing color. A plant should have some special quality of color, texture or growth habit to be entered in this section.

- Class 33 *Chirita*
- Class 34 *Episcia*
- Class 35 *Episcia* with pink-and-white leaf variegation
- Class 36 *Petrocosmea*
- Class 37 Other gesneriads with variegated foliage
- Class 38 Other gesneriad species
- Class 39 Other gesneriad hybrids

SECTION F — New Gesneriads

This section is for introductions made within the last two years, but not previously entered in an AGGS Convention show. Exhibitor must provide a card giving educational information such as name of hybridizer, collector, place of origin, special cultural requirements.

- Class 40 Species in flower
- Class 41 Species not in flower
- Class 42 Hybrids or named cultivars in flower
- Class 43 Hybrids or named cultivars not in flower

SECTION G — Lesser-Known Gesneriads Seldom Grown or Seen in Shows

Exhibitor must provide a card giving educational information such as habitat, source, special cultural requirements.

- Class 44 In flower
- Class 45 Not in flower

SECTION H — Collections of Gesneriads

A grouping of 3 to 5 different plants in flower or grown for ornamental qualities, or in combination (*Saintpaulia* must be in flower.) Exhibitor is encouraged to stage the plants as a unit since this is a consideration in judging this section. Exhibitor must provide a card with identification of plants. In Class 47, exhibitor must provide educational information on the card.

- Class 46 Plants of a single genus, either species, cultivars or hybrids
- Class 47 Kinship group—Interspecific or Intergeneric hybrid/hybrids with one or more parents

SECTION I — Gesneriads Grown by a Novice

A Novice is anyone who has never won a blue ribbon in a gesneriad flower show. An exhibitor wishing Novice status may not enter other Horticulture classes with the exception of Classes 24 through 28.

- Class 48 Gesneriads in flower
- Class 49 Gesneriads grown for ornamental qualities other than flowers (no flowers or buds showing color allowed)

Division II — ARTISTIC

Gesneriads must predominate. No artificial plant material allowed. Other live and dried material permitted. Accessories are optional. Plant material used must be identified on an accompanying card. *Saintpaulia* permitted in Classes 50, 55 and 58, as well as in Sections M and N. Table coverings and niches will be neutral in color; exhibitors may provide additional background. Note that the actual niche sides are only half the depth size but the design may use the full depth indicated. There is a limit of 4 entries in each class in Sections J, K, and L. Reservation requests must be sent to Rebecca Gmucs, 4 Kingswood Drive, Orangeburg, NY 10962 <jrgh@optonline.net>. The deadline for making reservations is June 15, 2002. *Artistic arrangers must leave the show room at the latest by 7:00 p.m.*

SECTION J — Arrangement of Fresh Cut and/or Growing Plant Material

- Class 50 "Atlantic City" – is home to casinos, the boardwalk, and the Miss America Pageant. Interpret an activity found at this famous resort. Niche size: 27"H × 20"W × 20"D
- Class 51 "Cranberry Bogs" – New Jersey is one of the three leading producers of cranberries. Use red in your design. Niche size: 21"H × 15"W × 15"D.
- Class 52 "Giant of Industry" – New Jersey ranks first in the production of pharmaceuticals, second in chemicals and is home to hundreds of other industries and corporate headquarters. In a modern arrangement using foliage only, depict the industrial nature of the state. Niche size: 21"H × 15"W × 15"D.
- Class 53 "The Wizard of Menlo Park" – Thomas A. Edison spent some of his most creative years at Menlo Park where experiments led to the invention of the incandescent lamp, telephone transmitter and phonograph. Depict one of his inventions. Niche size: 10"H × 8"W × 8"D.

SECTION K — Arrangement of Fresh Cut Plant Material

- Class 54 "Goldfinch" – is the State Bird of New Jersey. Create a kinetic design using a splash of yellow or gold. Design must have movement. Niche size: 27"H × 20"W × 20"D.
- Class 55 "Shore to Please" – New Jersey has 127 miles of white sand beaches and coastal waters providing a playground for all kinds of activities. Create this scene in an underwater arrangement in a container not exceeding 12".

- Class 56 "Lighthouse" – Built to light the way for ship captains navigating treacherous waters, each of New Jersey's historic lighthouses is a popular visitor attraction today. Create a vertical design inspired by one of these silent sentinels. Design, not to exceed 20" in height, to be staged on a round pedestal 7" tall and 4" in diameter. A white background will be provided.
- Class 57 CHALLENGE CLASS – Plant and line material to be provided along with the class title at 3:00 p.m. entry time. Several choices of colored paper will also be provided for background. Mechanics are to be supplied by the designer. Niche size: 10" × 8" × 8".

SECTION L — Arrangement of Growing Gesneriads

- Class 58 "Cape May Diamonds" – Small gemstones can be found along the beaches of the Jersey Cape. When polished and faceted, these pure quartz crystals have the look of more valuable diamond gems. Create a small arrangement using a container or accessories reminiscent of these "diamonds". Niche size: 10"H × 8"W × 8"D.
- Class 59 "The Pine Barrens" – The 1,700,000-acre Pine Barrens region teems with diverse wildlife and provides unlimited outdoor recreational opportunities. Incorporate some pine-like material in your design. Niche size: 21"H × 15"W × 15"D.
- Class 60 "Truck Gardens" – New Jersey abounds with farms large and small that produce a variety of vegetables and fruits, hence the nickname "*The Garden State*". Use vegetables or fruit as part of your design. Niche size: 27"H × 20"W × 20"D.

SECTION M — Growing Material in a Planting (Artistically and Horticulturally Balanced)

- Class 61 Terrarium, straight-sided, not to exceed 30" in any direction
- Class 62 Terrarium, curved, not to exceed 24" in any direction
- Class 63 Tray landscape, not to exceed 30" in any direction
- Class 64 Natural Garden - a planting in weathered wood, not to exceed 30" in any direction
- Class 65 Trained or sculptured gesneriads - bonsai, topiary, espaliered, or other style
- Class 66 Other container, not the usual form of plastic or clay pot

SECTION N — Artistic Entry by a Novice

An exhibitor wishing Novice status for the Artistic Division may not enter other Division II classes. (A Novice is anyone who has never won a blue ribbon in the artistic division of a gesneriad show.)

- Class 67 Artistic entry suitable for any of the classes in Sections J, K, L, or M. Exhibitor must identify, on a 3" × 5" card, the name of the class chosen and the plant material used.

Division III — THE ARTS

All entries must feature gesneriads in some form. Limit, one entry per exhibitor per class, and not previously exhibited in any AGGS Convention Show. Each entry must have been made by the exhibitor.

SECTION O — Photography

The subject must be identified on the entry card. Prints should not exceed 8" × 10"; mats should not exceed 11" × 14". Exhibitors must provide an easel for prints 5" × 7" or over. Slides must be mounted for projection in a standard carousel projector.

- Class 68 Color transparency
- Class 69 Color print
- Class 70 Black and white print

SECTION P — Crafts Representing Gesneriads

- Class 71 Painting or drawing (easel must be provided by exhibitor)
- Class 72 Textile (exhibitor must provide a card giving the source of the design)
- Class 73 Other crafts

Division IV — COMMERCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL

Reservations for Sections Q and R may be sent to Rebecca Gmucs, 4 Kingswood Drive, Orangeburg, NY 10962 or email <jrgh@optonline.net>. Please reserve by June 15.

SECTION Q — Commercial

- Class 74 Display table with a grouping of gesneriads (10 or more plants)
- Class 75 Display table with a grouping of gesneriads (fewer than 10 plants)

SECTION R — Educational

- Class 76 Exhibit illustrating phases of scientific or historical research or gesneriad promotion
- Class 77 Exhibit of plant material
- Class 78 Exhibit of photograph(s) – This class is for photographs of gesneriad plant material seldom seen in shows and of botanical interest and is appropriate for plants which are seasonal or are rare in cultivation. Exhibitor must provide a card giving educational information such as habitat, source, special cultural information, and reason for inclusion in this class.

RULES

1. Entries shall be in accordance with the schedule.
2. Exhibitors need not be members of AGGS.
3. Entries will be accepted only during hours specified. An exhibitor may request that the Classification Committee accept an entry for exhibit only. These entries, and all entries arriving after the close of entries, will be placed for exhibit only, will not be judged, and will be located in a separate area of the showroom. Where appropriate, educational information should be provided.
4. All entries for competition must be approved by the Classification Committee. Nonconformity to the schedule may bring disqualification.
5. An exhibitor is limited to one specimen of the same plant per class in the Horticulture Division. An exhibitor may submit more than one entry per class, provided each entry is a different species, cultivar or hybrid unless otherwise prohibited.
6. In fairness to amateur growers, institutions may not make more than two entries in the Horticulture, Artistic or Arts Divisions of the flower show. The same restriction applies to commercial growers who have employees who assist with the culture and grooming of potential entries.
7. Classes may be subdivided or consolidated by the Show Chairperson after entries close.
8. No entries may be removed from the showroom until the show closes. All entries must be checked out through the Show Committee.
9. All plants must be grown by the exhibitor and have been in the exhibitor's possession for at least three months prior to the show. This rule does not apply to plant material used in artistic arrangements in Division II.
10. All entries will be staged in the showroom by the Placement Committee. Artistic arrangements and collections can be executed in the showroom by the exhibitor in the space designated, and during the stated time for entries. Cut blossoms or plant material may be placed in artistic arrangements on Friday morning from 6:30 to 6:45 a.m. by previous written arrangement with the Flower Show Chairperson.
11. Exhibitors will be permitted to indicate the front of a horticultural entry.
12. All plants must be free of insects and disease. All will be inspected, including commercial and educational exhibits as well as entries for exhibit only.
13. AGGS standard competitive judging will be used.
14. Awards will be made according to the following point scores: 1st, blue ribbon, 90-100; 2nd, red ribbon, at least 80; 3rd, yellow ribbon, at least 70. Honorable Mention may also be awarded.
15. Special Awards (more than a class ribbon) will be reserved for AGGS members only unless otherwise offered to non-members. An exhibit must score 90 or above to be considered.
16. There will be a Sweepstakes Award for the Horticulture Division and a Sweepstakes award for the Artistic Division. An exhibitor must win a minimum of 3 blue ribbons in that division to be eligible for the award. These awards are reserved for AGGS members only.
17. The award for Best Gesneriad in Show in the Horticulture Division (excluding *Saintpaulia*) is given for horticultural perfection. A plant must score 95 points or over to be considered for this award. Reserved for AGGS members only.
18. AGGS will endeavor to protect all entries but assumes no responsibility for loss or damage.

EXHIBITOR'S INFORMATION

The exhibitor must prepare a list of plants and other exhibits with the appropriate Section and Class numbers to facilitate the work of the Entries Committee. The Flower Show Committee will assist in identifying material unknown to the exhibitor. If desired, an exhibitor may provide educational information (white 3" x 5" card only) for any entry in the show.

A computerized entry system will be used, and a pre-entry form will be included in each registration packet. Exhibitors with more than five entries are required to submit their pre-entry forms (in the Hospitality Center) on Wednesday or latest by 8:00 a.m. on Thursday; exhibitors with less than five entries are encouraged to submit their pre-entry forms early as well. Your cooperation will help expedite the actual entries process for everyone.

No particular type of container is specified for the Horticulture Division. Whatever is used should be clean. Foil covering should be avoided. A protective container or cover made of transparent material to shield delicate plant material from dry air or cold drafts may be used for any exhibit requiring it. Such plants may be judged uncovered.

The class for a collection of gesneriads of one genus stresses horticulture primarily, but as this serves to focus attention on a special group, there should be some degree of presentation. Uniform type and color of container would be a first step toward unity. Some simple staging to provide different levels may be provided by the exhibitor. The plants might be grouped in a basket or a tray.

Growing material established *in situ* should present a practical horticultural method of growing, not a temporary insertion for display only. This section covers entries such as terrariums, dish gardens, bonsai and material grown in containers other than the usual plastic or clay pots. Straight-sided terrariums are composed of flat pieces of glass or plastic; curved terrariums are composed of rounded pieces.

Photography: The photographer is being judged on the skill, technique and composition displayed, not on the quality of the plant material chosen as a subject.

Educational exhibits may be entered by institutions, chapters, study groups, or individuals. Any project relating to gesneriads may be presented with illustrative material that may or may not include live plant material.

Additional Convention Information

The Headquarters Plaza Hotel is conveniently located just one block off "The Green", the center of the colonial town of Morristown. The hotel is part of the Headquarters Plaza Mall, a business mall with a fitness center and movie theater complex, as well as shops and restaurants inside the mall, directly across the street, and within a short walking distance around The Green.

Convention registration must be postmarked by June 1, 2002, in order to avoid a \$25.00 late fee. **Register for convention by April 30, 2002, to gain early admittance to the plant sales.**

Newark International Airport is located about 25 miles east of Morristown. Taxi, limo, van and shuttle services are available to the hotel, and rental cars are also available at the airport. The HQ Plaza Hotel is one mile from Interstate 287 Exit 35 or 36, and indoor complimentary parking is available at the mall for hotel guests. Bus service from Morristown to the Port Authority Terminal in New York City is available directly in front of the mall. The Morristown train station is less than a mile from the hotel. Please request needed travel information on your registration form and further details will be sent with your confirmation.

Educational and Commercial Exhibitors, as well as artistic design exhibitors, contact Rebecca Gmucs, 4 Kingswood Dr., Orangeburg, NY 10962 or email <jrgh@optonline.net> for space availability.

To donate items to the auction to benefit the Frances Batcheller Endowment Fund, contact Paul Susi, 6 Upper Lane, Centerport, NY 11721 or email <captaur@optonline.net>

To sponsor an award for the Flower Show, contact Colleen Turley, 8404 W. Harrison Ct., Fredericksburg, VA 22407-1905 or email <awards@aggs.org>

Plant Sales Procedures

Each vendor who will be selling plants at convention must bring a minimum of 50 plants. Potted plants for sale should be well rooted. Rhizomes, tubers, cuttings, and stolons in labeled plastic bags are welcome, too. And, of course, any donated plant material will be most appreciated!

To make the sales process easier and to ensure that sellers receive full proceeds from the sale of their plants, the following procedure should be used in preparing plants for sale:

1. Each plant should be labeled with the name printed clearly on a WHITE plant tag placed securely in the pot or on a label on the pot. Paper tags are **not** recommended.
2. The price should be shown on a separate BRIGHTLY colored plant tag with the seller's identification also printed on the tag.
3. Place the tags on opposite sides of the pot to assist in the check-out process.
4. For labeling cuttings, rhizomes, tubers and any bagged plants, clearly print the plant name on the bag or on a WHITE plant tag attached to the bag using tape or staples. A plastic label placed inside the bag may also be used.
5. For pricing cuttings, rhizomes, tubers and bagged plants, attach a BRIGHTLY colored plant tag with the price and seller's identification. Attach the price tag separately from the name tag using tape or staples.

If you are planning to sell plants at the convention, please send your name and the ID you will be using on your tags to Maryjane Evans, 194 Morris Turnpike, Randolph, NJ 07869 (973-895-3444); email: plantsales2002@aol.com.

Frances Batcheller Endowment Fund Auction

Silent or live, it's always one of the highlights of convention. The auction works for us all, but it can't work without you—your donations and your bids. What can you donate? Any gesneriad or horticulturally related item will do... especially live plant material.

We have some changes planned for this year's auction that we think you'll like, and always invite suggestions. Please contact Paul Susi, FBEB Auction Chair.

American Gloxinia and Gesneriad Society, Inc.

46th Annual Convention — July 2–7, 2002

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Departure Date _____ Number of persons sharing room _____

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Reservations must be received by June 15, 2002 in order to guarantee convention rates.

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Signature _____

My check for one night deposit is enclosed \$ _____

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Flower Show Awards

It is January once again—time to make plans to attend our plant society's convention. This year, the annual migration of gesneriad enthusiasts will culminate in New Jersey. As with all natural phenomena, there are predictable signs that indicate one is yearning to join the flock and make the trek. One is the cleaning and preening of potential show plants, feathering one's nest with AAA guidebooks describing the destination, and my yearly request for award donations.

One of the convention's highlights is when the flower show participants are recognized for their high quality plants and exhibits. The winning exhibitors, myself, and AGGS as a whole appreciate the generosity of the individual members, commercial members, chapters, and friends-at-large who donate these awards.

I am currently soliciting donations for the 2002 Convention to be held in Morristown, New Jersey. Any member or chapter who wishes to donate an award may forward the award to me at the address below. Checks or money orders should be made payable to AGGS.

As in the past, preference is for unspecified awards. This allows for fair distribution to all deserving entries. Special requests will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. If there are no eligible entries, or the category's award has already been filled, the award may be transferred to another class or section. Should there be fewer eligible entries than awards, then the balance of award donations will be used to sponsor a color picture in THE GLOXINIAN of the "Best Gesneriad in Show".

Acknowledgement of all award donations will be printed in THE GLOXINIAN and on the AGGS web site. Thanks for your past support and for your consideration for this year's convention.

Colleen Turley <awards@aggs.org>

8404 West Harrison Court, Fredericksburg, VA 22407-1905

Judges Training School

The Training School for the 2002 Convention will be held on Wednesday, July 3. The sessions for novice and continuing AGGS judges will be held from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. and from 1:00 to 2:45 p.m. The examination will be given from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. A member who is primarily interested in exhibiting, rather than becoming a judge, may register for the school. Taking the examination is optional unless accreditation as a judge is desired.

The registration fee is \$11.00, which includes a new or renewal subscription to *Appraisal*, the newsletter of the Judges Interest Group. Only one subscription (\$6.00) for *Appraisal* is needed for a single address. Checks should be made out to AGGS and sent to Ben Paternoster, 14 Coptor Court, Huntington, NY 11743-2335 by June 15. **No registrations will be accepted at Convention.** If you wish acknowledgement of the receipt of your registration for the school by regular mail, please enclose a self-addressed postcard with your request. Email acknowledgements, when requested, will be sent provided an email address accompanies the request.

There will be a meeting of the Judges Interest Group on Wednesday, July 3, from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. Current AGGS judges or those interested in becoming judges are welcome to attend this meeting. For judges and clerks who participate in the flower show judging, there will be a critique by Frances Batcheller on Saturday, July 6, from 7:00 to 8:00 a.m.

A Call for Judges and Clerks

Anyone who is interested in an assignment as a judge or clerk should write to Arleen Dewell, Judges Chairperson, #311-2366 Wall Street, Vancouver, BC, Canada V5L 4Y1, or email <arleendewell@shaw.ca>, for consideration. If you wish acknowledgement of the receipt of your request by regular mail, please enclose an unstamped self-addressed postcard with your request. Email requests will be acknowledged by reply email.

Turning *Alloplectus* Upside Down

John L. Clark <Clark.John@nmnh.si.edu>
Department of Systematic Biology – Botany, MRC-166
U.S. National Museum of Natural History
Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC 20560-0166

After finishing college, my first long-term job was building latrines while serving as a U.S. Peace Corps volunteer in the jungles of Ecuador. Trying to dig a hole in the clay soils of the tropics is a bit like trying to use a plastic spoon to scoop out ice cream from a frozen pint of Ben and Jerry's. It didn't take me long to change my focus from building latrines to collecting plants when I realized how difficult it was to identify even the most common trees and herbs around my new home. My initial interest to identify common plants turned into a passion to document the local flora.

A two-year commitment to the U.S. Peace Corps turned into a four-year tropical adventure. During this time I catalogued, collected, and explored for plants throughout Ecuador. Although Gesneriaceae was only one of the many tropical plant families that I studied on a regular basis, the diversity and difficult generic distinctions made Gesneriads a constant challenge to understand. *Alloplectus* was one of the most mysterious—I could rarely determine specimens to species, and the variation in the plants within relatively short distances made species distinctions extremely difficult. Because of these challenges, I chose *Alloplectus* as the topic of my doctoral studies.

While in graduate school, the AGGS Research Fund helped to provide me with opportunities to further explore and study neotropical Gesneriads.

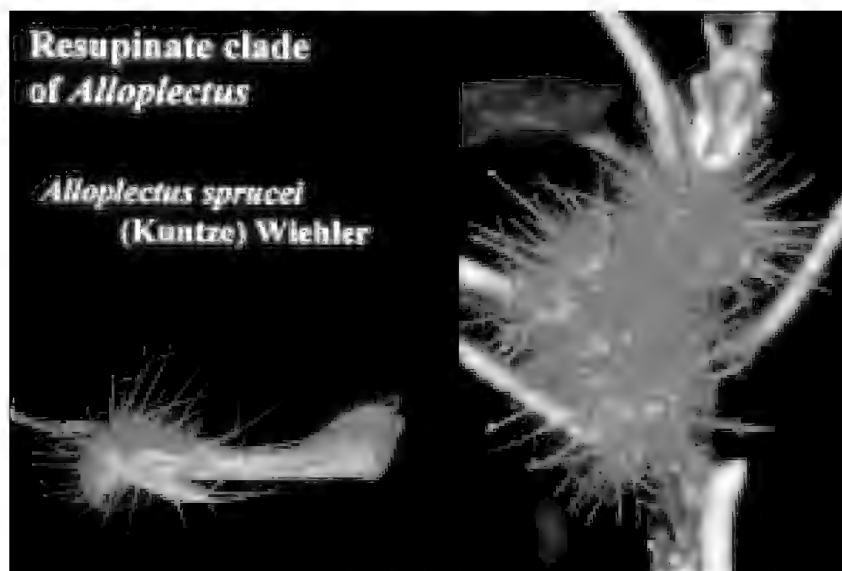


John Clark with *Alloplectus schultzei* in Ecuador, January 2001

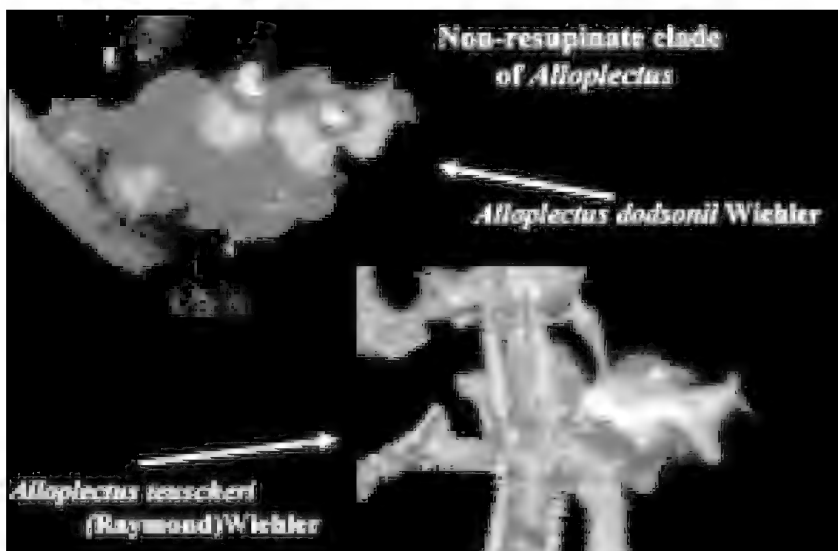
My first task towards understanding *Alloplectus* was to hypothesize its evolutionary history. I conducted numerous analyses using morphology and molecular data to elucidate the evolutionary history of this poorly known and vaguely understood group. The AGGS Research Fund helped to support the molecular study I conducted that provided the raw data to create and test hypotheses of evolutionary relationships among the species of *Alloplectus*, and between *Alloplectus* and its generic relatives.

The process of collecting molecular data involves creating a mini-plant genome. Leaves are ground up until the cells burst, which allows access to the DNA that is stored inside the nuclei. I selected a region of DNA to amplify (make multiple copies) and using an automated sequencer, I was then able to record the nucleotide sequences for that specific region. Nucleotide sequences are the raw data for molecular analyses and are useful for discovering shared derived changes that arise through the processes of evolution.

One of my initial discoveries was that flowers of *Alloplectus* have tricked us for over 200 years. My preliminary analyses showed a distinctive pattern among currently classified *Alloplectus* species. There are two evolutionary lineages of *Alloplectus* species that correspond to flower orientation. In two-thirds of the currently described species in this genus, the flowers are resupinate, meaning that the flowers have rotated 180 degrees, such that they appear essentially upside down. In the other third, the flowers are positioned in the more traditional right-side-up orientation. To illustrate how this has escaped notice, it would be like finding a piece of paper with the figure "6" written on it. If you picked up that piece of paper you might assume it was the number 6. But, how do you know it is not the number "9"? Applying this illustration, the flowers in *Alloplectus* are like nines that have always been assumed to be sixes.



Alloplectus sprucei illustrating the typical resupinate corolla orientation (figures prepared by John L. Clark from photos on file at the Smithsonian Institution)



Alloplectus dodsonii and *A. teuscheri* illustrating the non-resupinate corolla orientation (figures prepared by John L. Clark from photos on file at the Smithsonian Institution)

Gesneriad systematists have interpreted the corolla orientation of *Alloplectus* to be the same as in most gesneriad species, with the pouch on the lower surface and the nectary gland on the upper surface. As a result, there have been few descriptions that successfully described the flowers correctly (i.e., with the pouch up and the nectary gland down) and I have found very few references documenting this phenomenon in other Gesneriads, Chautems' work with the genus *Nematanthus* being a notable exception (explained below). The only *Alloplectus* illustration to ever show the correct orientation of the flower was done by Alice Tangerini for *Alloplectus purpureus* (Kvist & Skog, 1992). Otherwise, no published illustration of any resupinate *Alloplectus* species has shown the correct orientation of the apical pouch, basal gibbosity, or nectary gland.

Photos accompanying this article show the two kinds of corolla orientation in *Alloplectus*. *Alloplectus sprucei* shows the typical resupinate (or upside-down) flower found in most species of *Alloplectus*. Note that the nectary gland is on the lower surface and the swollen portion ("pouch") of the corolla tube is on the upper surface.

The less common non-resupinate flowers that are currently classified in *Alloplectus* have a hypocyrtoid pouch (i.e., inflated tube with a constricted throat) on the lower surface of the corolla. One common non-resupinate species from northwestern South America is *Alloplectus teuscheri*. Other *Alloplectus* species that do not have resupinate flowers include *Alloplectus tenuis* from Ecuador, *Alloplectus dodsonii* from Ecuador, and *Alloplectus ambonensis* from Central America.

Resupination is not unique to *Alloplectus*. This phenomenon was well documented by Alain Chautems (1988) in *Nematanthus*. Chautems classified *Nematanthus* flowers as non-resupinate, pendent-resupinate, and non-pendent-resupinate. Resupination has not been recognized in *Alloplectus* (Wiehler 2001—personal communication; Skog 2001—

personal communication). The only mention of resupination in *Alloplectus* was in the text (not diagram) of a recently described species by Martin Freiberg (1997).

Thanks to the support from the AGGS Research Fund, I now have a better understanding of the relationships of currently described *Alloplectus* species and an easily recognized evolutionary lineage that is supported by molecular and morphological evidence. I am in the midst of collecting and describing new species that belong to the resupinate lineage of *Alloplectus*. Within the next two years, I hope to finish a revision that includes an overview of all the resupinate *Alloplectus* species.

I would like to thank AGGS for supporting my research. In two years I hope to finish my thesis and move back to the tropics where I initially became intrigued with this fascinating and poorly understood group of plants.

Literature cited:

Chautems, A. 1988. Révision taxonomique et possibilités d'hybridations de *Nematanthus* Schrader (Gesneriaceae), genre endémique de la forêt côtière brésilienne. *Dissertationes Botanicae*, 112: 1-226. Berlin, Germany: J. Cramer.

Freiberg, M. 1997. The gesneriad flora of the Los Cedros Biological Reserve, northwest Ecuador, part 2: New species in *Alloplectus*, *Dalbergaria*, *Paradrymonia* and *Pentadenia* (Gesneriaceae). *Phyton* 37: 133-140.

Kvist, L.P., and L.E. Skog. 1992. *Novae Gesneriaceae neotropicarum IV: Alloplectus purpureus* and *Columnea nematoloba*—new Gesneriaceae from north-western South America. *Brittonia* 44: 475-480.



Alloplectus purpureus illustration by Alice Tangerini published in *Novae Gesneriaceae neotropicarum IV* (1992)

Coming Events

February 8-10 — Florida — Upper Pinellas African Violet Society 43rd annual show and sale at Crossroads Mall, East Bay Dr. (686) and U.S. 19, Clearwater. Sales Friday and Saturday 10:00 am to 9:00 pm, Sunday 12:00 noon to 6:00 pm. Show open after judging at 1:00 pm on Friday; closing Sunday at 5:00 pm. Contact Phyllis King (727-398-7450) <Phyllisk@gte.net>

March 23-24 — Illinois — Northern Illinois Gesneriad society judged show and plant sale "Kaleidoscope – A Salute to Color" at the Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe. Saturday noon to 4:00 pm; Sunday 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Exhibits by nonmembers are invited. Contact Susan Bradford (847-740-7801).

April 6-7 — California — Capital City AVS African violet judged show and sale, Sacramento Garden & Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd. Saturday 2:00 to 5:00 pm; Sunday 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Free admission and parking. Contact Lynn Lombard (530-637-9000) <lombard@oro.net>

April 13-14 — New York — African Violet Society of Rochester 53rd annual show and sale at Perinton Square Mall, 6720 Pittsford-Palmyra Rd (Routes 250 & 31), Perinton. Saturday 2:00 to 6:00 pm; Sunday 11:00 am to 5:00 pm. Free admission. Contact Alvin Meyer (315-462-6616).



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Charles Lawn with *Sinningia* 'Only a Rose'



Some of Charles' other *Sinningia* hybrids

A Passion for Florist Gloxinias

Charles Lawn <mrgloxie@ozemail.com.au>
3 Clio St., Lakemba, N.S.W., Australia

Over 50 years ago now I started growing Florist Gloxinias. This came about with my discharge from the army—my nerves were gone somewhat, and the doctor recommended that I take on a hobby. I became absorbed with these plants and other Gesneriads, and my health improved within 12 months! So the journey began.

Each new season has provided a challenge to create something new in the way of colours and markings. This I never tire of, and it is always a thrill to see something special in the new hybrids. Several years ago I set my sights on developing double *Sinningias*, as the few that were in cultivation could not hold their flowers erect because of their weak stems. I am proud to have been successful with red and purple doubles, and now also with the other colours that are appearing. I have also applied the *Sinningia* double-red pollen to the slipper-type 'Lavender Queen', and from that cross a nice group of hybrids have evolved.

Of course, it has been a wonderful experience socially to meet friends at twelve-month intervals at the prestigious Sydney Royal Easter Show. I've also been corresponding with friends like Claire Roberts for thirty years, and more recently with Dale Martens and online with members of the Gesneriphiles Discussion Group. Everyone's been most generous with rhizomes and seeds.

Note from the Editor: When I asked Charles to write about his experiences growing gloxinias, his few comments above were all I received. But let me tell you a little bit more ...

Charles Lawn won his first ribbon for Best Gloxinia at the Sydney Royal Easter Show in 1960 and liked the competition and the people he met there every year. He's competed every year since then and has won over 500 champion ribbons and 20 medals, winning more often than any other exhibitor at the show. He was featured in the 2001 Sydney Show magazine as one of their "Show Heroes".

Charles grows his champion *Sinningias*, *Gloxinias*, *Achimenes*, *Kohlerias*, ferns, begonias, and who knows what else, in a glasshouse and in pots in his backyard. When asked by a local newspaper reporter in Australia about the secret to being the king of gloxinias, he responded, "I talk to them ... you've got to treat them right. I give them plenty of attention ... it's knowing when to pot the seedlings, and you've got to have a good potting mix."

What one could learn by eavesdropping on a conversation between Albert Buell and Charles Lawn, gleaning information from their combined experience of over 100 years in growing and hybridizing Florist Gloxinias...

JK

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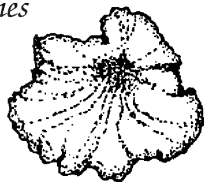
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The following registrations should be added to the Registered Gesneriads List found in Appendix C of the 1990 Gesneriad Register:

01740	<i>Chirita</i> 'Atsuko'	<i>C. fimbrispala</i> 'Wuhan' × <i>C. subrhomboidea</i>	T. Okuto
01741	<i>Chirita</i> 'Bamboo Boat'	<i>C. fimbrispala</i> #3 × <i>C. eburnea</i> (blue)	T. Okuto
01742	<i>Chirita</i> 'Crossroads'	<i>C. sinensis</i> 'Latifolia Dwarf' × <i>C. tribracteata</i>	T. Okuto
01743	<i>Chirita</i> 'Daruma'	<i>C. sinensis</i> 'Latifolia Dwarf' × <i>C. tribracteata</i>	T. Okuto
01744	<i>Chirita</i> 'Mineko'	<i>C. subrhomboidea</i> × <i>C. fimbrispala</i> 'Wuhan'	T. Okuto
01745	<i>Chirita</i> 'Nakako'	<i>C. eburnea</i> (yellow) × <i>C. sinensis</i> 'Latifolia Dwarf'	T. Okuto
01746	<i>Streptocarpus</i> 'Akashi'	Complex cross, several generations of unnamed hybrids	T. Okuto
01747	<i>Streptocarpus</i> 'Autumn Dew'	<i>S.</i> 'Ohama' × <i>S.</i> unnamed hybrid #108	T. Okuto
01748	<i>Streptocarpus</i> 'Awaji'	<i>S.</i> 'Kimi' × <i>S.</i> 'Momo'	T. Okuto
01749	<i>Streptocarpus</i> 'Big Yolk'	<i>S.</i> (unnamed hybrid × <i>S. eylesii</i>) × (<i>S.</i> 'Black Panther' × unnamed white hybrid)	T. Okuto
01750	<i>Streptocarpus</i> 'Dancing Bees'	<i>S.</i> unnamed hybrid × <i>S.</i> 'Maihime'	T. Okuto
01751	<i>Streptocarpus</i> 'Daydream'	<i>S.</i> unnamed Okuto hybrid × self	T. Okuto
01752	<i>Streptocarpus</i> 'Kimi'	<i>S.</i> 'Big Yolk' × <i>S.</i> Okuto hybrid #104-2	T. Okuto
01753	<i>Streptocarpus</i> 'Komachi'	<i>S.</i> unnamed Okuto hybrid #137 × self	T. Okuto
01754	<i>Streptocarpus</i> 'Naruto'	<i>S.</i> 'Isochidori' × <i>S.</i> unnamed Okuto hybrid #108	T. Okuto
01755	<i>Streptocarpus</i> 'Otome'	<i>S.</i> 'Usubeni' × self	T. Okuto
01756	<i>Streptocarpus</i> 'Pink Fantasia'	<i>S.</i> unnamed hybrid #142 × <i>S.</i> 'Kimi'	T. Okuto
01757	<i>Streptocarpus</i> 'Red Fantasia'	<i>S.</i> unnamed hybrid #142 × <i>S.</i> 'Kimi'	T. Okuto
01758	<i>Streptocarpus</i> 'Sakura'	<i>S.</i> 'Usubeni' × self	T. Okuto
01759	<i>Streptocarpus</i> 'Silky Touch'	<i>S.</i> unnamed hybrid #101 × <i>S.</i> unnamed hybrid #108	T. Okuto
01760	<i>Streptocarpus</i> 'Third Fantasia'	<i>S.</i> unnamed hybrid #142 × <i>S.</i> 'Kimi'	T. Okuto
01761	<i>Streptocarpus</i> 'Violet Dew'	<i>S.</i> unnamed hybrid #097-2 × <i>S.</i> unnamed hybrid #108).	T. Okuto

Descriptions are as follows:

***Chirita* 'Atsuko'**, 2001, IR01740, Toshijiro Okuto, Japan. (*C. fimbrispala* 'Wuhan' × *C. subrhomboidea*). Cross made Mar. 12, 1997, planted July 31, 1997 and first flowered Mar. 20, 1999. Fertile but reproducible only vegetatively. Rosette. Leaves dark green, hairy, 10 cm long × 8.5 cm wide with 5.5 cm petiole, ovate with serrate margin, acute tip and oblique base. Calyx split, grayed green, 14 mm long; pedicel 15-20 mm, 3 flowers per peduncle. Corolla salverform, 65 mm long and 40 mm across, deep blue violet (RHS 87A), tube white with orange ridges and speckles and a brown spot at the top of the mouth. The reverse cross of 'Mimeko', flower color is much deeper than 'Mimeko'. Speckles in the throat are not as distinctive as in *C. fimbrispala* 'Wuhan'. First published 1999, *Crosswords* 23(2): 8.

***Chirita* 'Bamboo Boat'**, 2001, IR01741, Toshijiro Okuto, Japan. (*C. fimbrispala* #3 × *C. eburnea* (blue). Cross made Mar. 1997, planted July 31, 1997 and first flowered Apr. 10, 1999. Sterile and reproducible only vegetatively. Rosette. Leaves dark green, hairy, 11 cm long × 10 cm wide with 7 cm petiole, ovate with serrate margin, acute tip and cuneate base. Calyx split, light green, purplish toward tip, 17 mm long; pedicel 30 mm long, 4-5 flowers per peduncle. Corolla salverform, 70 mm long × 40 mm wide, violet (RHS 85B), throat white, orange ridges in the tube. Peduncle is long and branched; bract smaller than *C. eburnea*. First published 1999, *Crosswords* 23(2): 8.

***Chirita* 'Crossroads'**, 2001, IR01742, Toshijiro Okuto, Japan. (*C. sinensis* 'Latifolia Dwarf' × *C. tribracteata*). Cross made Aug. 19, 1997, planted Dec. 20, 1997 and first flowered Sept. 27, 1999. Sterile and reproducible only vegetatively. Rosette. Leaves green with faint silver veins, hairy, 10 cm long × 8 cm wide with 4 cm petiole,

ovate with crenate margin, acute tip and cuneate base. Calyx split, light green, 10 mm long; pedicel 35 mm, 5-8 flowers per peduncle. Corolla salverform, 50 mm long \times 25 mm wide, violet (RHS 87B), outside reddish, brown spots at mouth of tube and orange ridges in the tube. A sibling of 'Daruma'. Leaves with prominent petiole, decussate, faint silver veins on leaves.

***Chirita* 'Daruma'**, 2001, IR01743, Toshijiro Okuto, Japan. (*C. sinensis* 'Latifolia Dwarf' \times *C. tribracteata*). Cross made Aug. 19, 1997, planted Dec. 20, 1997 and first flowered Sept. 27, 1999. Sterile and reproducible only vegetatively. Rosette. Leaves hairy, green, 9 cm long \times 9 cm wide with 3 cm petiole, ovate with crenate margin, acute tip and cuneate base. Calyx split, light green, 10 mm long; pedicel 50 mm with 2-3 flowers per peduncle. Corolla salverform, 40 mm long \times 20 mm wide, violet-blue (RHS 92B), orange ridges in the tube and a brown spot at the top of the mouth. A sibling of 'Crossroads', the leaf is solid green, round with short petiole making a tight rosette. Peduncle is shorter than 'Crossroads' and stiff.

***Chirita* 'Mineko'**, 2001, IR01744, Toshijiro Okuto, Japan. (*C. subrhomboidea* \times *C. fimbriepala* 'Wuhan'). Cross made May 22, 1997, planted July 31, 1997 and first flowered Jan. 18, 2000. Fertile but reproducible only vegetatively. Rosette. Leaves hairy, dark green, 13 cm long \times 9 cm wide with 4 cm petiole, ovate with serrate margin, acute tip and cuneate base. Calyx split, pale green, 10 mm long, pedicel 30 mm long, 7 flowers per peduncle. Corolla salverform, 70 mm long \times 53 mm wide, violet-blue (RHS 90C), white tube with orange ridges and without speckles, a brown spot at the top of the mouth. The same parentage as *C.* 'Keiko' on the basis of species but the seed parents are of different strains. Flower is bigger and more reddish than 'Keiko'.

***Chirita* 'Nakako'**, 2001, IR01745, Toshijiro Okuto, Japan. (*C. eburnea* (yellow) \times *C. sinensis* 'Latifolia Dwarf'). Cross made June 26, 1997, planted July 31, 1997 and first flowered Sept. 14, 1998. Sterile and reproducible only vegetatively. Rosette. Leaves hairy, green, 13 cm long \times 8 cm wide with 5 cm petiole, ovate with entire margin, acute tip and cuneate base. Calyx split, yellow-green, 8 mm long; pedicel 20 mm long, 10-13 flowers per peduncle. Corolla salverform, 40 mm long \times 22 mm wide, yellow (RHS 13C), orange ridges in the tube and a brown spot at the top of the mouth. Leaves intermediate between the parents; more floriferous than *C. eburnea*. First published 1999, *Crosswords* 23(2): 8.



Chirita 'Mineko'



Chirita 'Nakako'



Streptocarpus 'Akashi'



Streptocarpus 'Big Yolk'

***Streptocarpus* 'Akashi'**, 2001, IR01746, Toshijiro Okuto, Japan. (Complex parentage of several generations of unnamed hybrids). Cross made Oct. 28, 1995, planted Mar. 13, 1996 and first flowered July 7, 1997. Reproducible only vegetatively. Rosette. Leaves hairy, green, 24 cm long \times 8 cm wide, linear with serrate margin, acute tip and cuneate base. Calyx split, light green with purple tip, 5 mm long; pedicel 9 mm with 3 flowers per peduncle. Corolla salverform, 60 mm long \times 45 mm wide, reddish purple (RHS 63A) stippling over the white ground color of the corolla, which is sometimes fused into solid color on the upper lobes. First published 1999, *Crosswords* 23(2): 10.

***Streptocarpus* 'Autumn Dew'**, 2001, IR01747, Toshijiro Okuto, Japan. (*S.* 'Ohama' \times *S.* unnamed Okuto hybrid #108). Cross made Oct. 28, 1995, planted Mar. 13, 1996 and first flowered June 6, 1996. Fertile but reproducible only vegetatively. Rosette. Leaves hairy, green, 22 cm long \times 5 cm wide, linear with serrate margin, acute tip and cuneate base. Calyx split, light green 5 mm long; pedicel 10 mm with 3-5 flowers per peduncle. Corolla salverform, 40 mm long \times 31 mm wide, light purple (RHS 76C) with purple stripes and yellow bars in the throat. Flower is shaped like *S. kentaniensis* but the color is light purple. Leaf is linear but wider than *kentaniensis*.

***Streptocarpus* 'Awaji'**, 2001, IR01748, Toshijiro Okuto, Japan. (*S.* 'Kimi' \times *S.* 'Momo'). Cross made Oct. 9, 1997, planted Feb. 10, 1998 and first flowered Oct. 14, 1998. Fertile but reproducible only vegetatively. Rosette. Leaves hairy, green, 22 cm long \times 7 cm wide, linear with crenate margin, acute tip and cuneate base. Calyx split, grayed green, 7 mm long; pedicel 15 mm; 2-5 flowers per peduncle. Corolla infundibuliform, 60 mm long \times 41 mm wide, red-purple (RHS 74A) with big yellow center on lower lobes. Flower resembles *S.* 'Momo' but the yellow center is larger.

***Streptocarpus* 'Big Yolk'**, 2001, IR01749, Toshijiro Okuto, Japan. {(*S.* unnamed Okuto hybrid \times *S. eylesii*) \times (*S.* 'Black Panther' \times unknown white hybrid)}. Cross made Feb. 28, 1994, planted June 5, 1994 and first flowered July 14, 1995. Fertile but reproducible only vegetatively. Rosette. Leaves hairy, green, 25 cm long \times 11 cm wide, elliptic with serrate margin, rounded tip and oblique base. Calyx split, pale green, 5 mm long; pedicel 20 mm long; 3 flowers per peduncle. Corolla salverform, 80 mm long \times 65 mm wide, violet (RHS 87B) with yellow (RHS 4B) center. First leaf is exceptionally large and the strong contrast of the basic color and the yellow center is striking. First published 1999, *Crosswords* 23(2): 8.

***Streptocarpus* 'Dancing Bees'**, 2001, IR01750, Toshijiro Okuto, Japan. (*S.* unnamed Okuto hybrid #138 × *S.* 'Maihime'). Cross made Oct. 26, 1997, planted Apr. 16, 1998 and first flowered Jan. 24, 1999. Fertile but reproducible only vegetatively. Compact rosette. Leaves hairy, green, 15 cm long × 6 cm wide, linear with serrate margin, rounded tip and cuneate base. Calyx split, light green with purple tip, 3 mm long; pedicel 12 mm; 2-3 flowers per peduncle. Corolla salverform, 48 mm long × 33 mm wide, dark purple-violet (RHS 81A), upper lobes paler. Small deep purple-violet flowers with narrower leaves than *S.* 'Maihime'.

***Streptocarpus* 'Daydream'**, 2001, IR0175, Toshijiro Okuto, Japan. (*S.* unnamed Okuto hybrid #103 × self). Cross made Sept. 1997, planted Dec. 20, 1997 and first flowered May 1, 1999. Fertile but reproducible only vegetatively. Compact rosette. Leaves hairy, dark green, 16 cm long × 5 cm wide, elliptic with crenate margin, rounded tip and cuneate base. Calyx split, dark green, 7 mm long; pedicel 8 mm with 6 flowers per peduncle. Corolla salverform, 37 mm long × 40 mm wide, pale violet (RHS 92D) with yellow throat. Leaves are elliptic and compact; flower color is different from white of parents.

***Streptocarpus* 'Kimi'**, 2001, IR01752, Toshijiro Okuto, Japan. (*S.* 'Big Yolk' × *S.* Okuto hybrid #104-2). Cross made Oct. 21, 1995, planted Mar. 13, 1996 and first flowered June 21, 1997. Fertile but reproducible only vegetatively. Rosette. Leaves hairy, green, 23 cm long × 9 cm wide, linear with serrate margin, acute tip and cuneate base. Calyx split, light green, 9 mm long; pedicel 12 mm with 2-5 flowers per peduncle. Corolla salverform, 50 mm long × 40 mm wide, pale yellow (RHS 4B), with white margins. In 'Kimi' the yellow color extends onto the upper lobes so that the flower appears lemony yellow. First published 1999, *Crosswords* 23(2): 9.

***Streptocarpus* 'Komachi'**, 2001, IR01753, Toshijiro Okuto, Japan. (*S.* unnamed Okuto hybrid #137 × self). Cross made Oct. 10, 1997, planted Feb. 10, 1998 and first flowered Oct. 25, 1998. Fertile but reproducible only vegetatively. Small rosette. Leaves hairy, dark green with red-purple veins below, 14 cm long × 4 cm wide, lanceolate with crenate margin, acute tip and cuneate base. Calyx split, green, 4 mm long; pedicel 6 mm, 1 flower per peduncle. Corolla salverform, 40 mm long × 32 mm wide, violet (RHS 88D), throat white with violet lines. Leaves are smaller than parents. First published 1999, *Crosswords* 23(2): 9.

***Streptocarpus* 'Naruto'**, 2001, IR01754, Toshijiro Okuto, Japan. (*S.* 'Isochidori' × *S.* unnamed Okuto hybrid #108). Cross made Oct. 28, 1995, planted Mar. 13, 1996 and first flowered Oct. 3, 1997. Fertile but reproducible only vegetatively. Rosette. Leaves hairy, green, 23 cm long × 5 cm wide, linear with serrate margin, acute tip and cuneate base. Calyx split, green with purple tip, 6 mm long; pedicel 6 mm, 1-4 flowers per peduncle. Corolla salverform, 47 mm long × 32 mm wide, purple-violet (RHS 82B), stippled with dark purple-violet (RHS 83B). The stippling over the dark corolla is unusual. First published 1999, *Crosswords* 23(2): 10.

***Streptocarpus* 'Otome'**, 2001, IR01755, Toshijiro Okuto, Japan. (*S.* 'Usubeni' × self). Cross made Oct. 1997, planted Feb. 10, 1998 and first flowered Mar. 10, 1999. Fertile but reproducible only vegetatively. Compact rosette. Leaves hairy, dark green, 16 cm long × 4 cm wide, linear with crenate margin, acute tip and cuneate base. Calyx split, green, 5 mm long; pedicel 6-20mm, 2-4 flowers per peduncle. Corolla salverform, 42 mm long × 33 mm wide, pink (RHS 62B) with yellow on the tube. A sibling of 'Sakura', this has larger leaves, deeper colored flowers and more flowers than 'Sakura'.

***Streptocarpus* 'Pink Fantasia'**, 2001, IR01756, Toshijiro Okuto, Japan. (*S.* unnamed Okuto hybrid #142 × *S.* 'Kimi'). Cross made Oct. 22, 1997, planted Feb. 10, 1998 and first flowered Oct. 16, 1999. Fertile but reproducible only vegetatively. Compact rosette. Leaves hairy, green, 20 cm long × 8 cm wide, oblong with serrate margin, acute tip and cuneate base. Calyx split, yellow green, 4 mm long; pedicel 12 mm with 2-4 flowers per peduncle. Corolla salverform, 50 mm long × 40 mm wide, purplish pink (RHS 74C) with dark lines and yellow throat.

***Streptocarpus* 'Red Fantasia'**, 2001, IR01757, Toshijiro Okuto, Japan. (*S.* unnamed Okuto hybrid #142 × *S.* 'Kimi'). Cross made Oct. 22, 1997, planted Feb. 10, 1998 and first flowered Oct. 31, 1999. Fertile but reproducible only vegetatively. Rosette. Leaves hairy, green, 20 cm long × 9 cm wide, oblong with serrate margin, acute tip and cuneate base. Calyx split, yellow green, 5 mm long; pedicel 10 mm long with 3-5 flowers per peduncle. Corolla salverform, 43 mm long × 28 mm wide, red-purple (RHS 74A) with orange lines in the tube. Small flowers and compact leaves are inherited from *S. meyeri* and *johannis*.

***Streptocarpus* 'Sakura'**, 2001, IR01758, Toshijiro Okuto, Japan. (*S.* 'Usubeni' × self). Cross made Oct. 1997, planted Feb. 10, 1998 and first flowered Sept. 30, 1998. Fertile but reproducible only vegetatively. Small rosette. Leaves hairy, green, 13 cm long × 3 cm wide, linear with crenate margin, acute tip and cuneate base. Calyx split, gray-green, 5mm long; pedicel 5 mm with 1-2 flowers per peduncle. Corolla salverform, 44 mm long × 34 mm wide, pale pink (RHS 69C) with yellow in tube. Very small plant, much smaller than parents. First published 1999, *Crosswords* 23(2): 9.

***Streptocarpus* 'Silky Touch'**, 2001, IR01759, Toshijiro Okuto, Japan. (*S.* unnamed Okuto hybrid #101 × *S.* unnamed Okuto hybrid #108). Cross made Oct. 21, 1995, planted Mar. 13, 1996, and first flowered 1997. Fertile but reproducible only vegetatively. Rosette. Leaves hairy, green, 20 cm long × 5.5 cm wide, lanceolate with crenate margin, acute tip and cuneate base. Calyx split, red-purple, 3 mm long; pedicel 3-8 mm with 2-6 flowers per peduncle. Corolla salverform, 37 mm long × 25 mm wide, dark red-purple (RHS 71A). First published 1999, *Crosswords* 23(2): 10.

***Streptocarpus* 'Third Fantasia'**, 2001, IR01760, Toshijiro Okuto, Japan. (*S.* unnamed Okuto hybrid #142 × *S.* 'Kimi'). Cross made Oct. 22, 1997, planted Feb. 10, 1998 and first flowered Sept. 29, 1999. Fertile but reproducible only vegetatively. Compact rosette. Leaves hairy, green, 24 cm long × 7.5 cm wide, oblong with serrate margin, acute tip and cuneate base. Calyx split, yellow green, 5 mm long; pedicel 10 mm with 3-4 flowers per peduncle. Corolla salverform, 44 mm long × 36 mm wide, purplish pink (RHS 74B) with white mottling. Flowers and leaves are compact. Mottled flower color is unique and different from its siblings 'Red Fantasia' and 'Pink Fantasia'.

***Streptocarpus* 'Violet Dew'**, 2001, IR01761, Toshijiro Okuto, Japan. (*S.* unnamed Okuto hybrid #097-2 × *S.* unnamed Okuto hybrid #108). Cross made Oct. 21, 1995, planted Mar. 23, 1996 and first flowered June 5, 1997. Fertile but reproducible only vegetatively. Rosette. Leaves hairy, green, 17 cm long × 6 cm wide, lanceolate with serrate margin, acute tip and cuneate base. Calyx split, pale green, 3 mm long; pedicel 7 mm long with 4 flowers per peduncle. Corolla salverform, 44 mm long × 31 mm wide, violet blue (RHS 91B) with deep violet mark in throat. Having *S. meyeri* and *kentaniensis* in its parentage, the flower is shaped like *S. meyeri* but color is clear violet-blue, leaf shape is intermediate between the two species.

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A Tale of Three *Sinningias* (and One *Gloxinia*)

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From July 1999 to March 2001 I worked for Instituto Plantarum, a company specializing in botanical books. I was hired to build and organize a living collection of herbaceous plants, especially Gesneriads.

During this time I traveled a lot and revisited practically all previously known growing places for *Sinningia*, as well as went to some habitats still new to me: Rio de Contas, Bahia State, where *S. harleyi* grows in rock crevices near a waterfall; and Jussari, also in Bahia, the habitat of *S. macrophylla* where plants grow in a thick layer of humus on the forest floor. I even went out of the country, into Paraguay, to find *S. amambayensis*.

One of the most important moments I had while working for Instituto Plantarum was to rediscover the habitats of *S. eumorpha*, *S. piresiana* and *Gloxinia sylvatica*, all three species sharing the same area with *S. macropoda*. We had the opportunity to introduce *S. piresiana* and *S. amambayensis* into cultivation, and to supply new material of *S. eumorpha*, *S. guttata*, and *Gloxinia sylvatica*, just to name a few.

It was a Sunday afternoon in October of 1999 when I received an excited phone call from my co-worker Rogerio Salviani. He had gone to a waterfall called Saltão and found an unusual *Sinningia* species in bloom that looked like *S. douglasii* but had hairy leaves. He also told me about another plant with smaller round and shiny leaves. From what he said on the phone, I realized that he was talking about *S. eumorpha* probably just emerging from dormancy.

Two days after that phone call, we went to that waterfall, about 100 km away. The place was a farm that had two waterfalls used by people interested in extreme sports like rappelling. As we were descending the trail to the main waterfall called Saltão (big jump), I saw the first plant of *S. eumorpha*, just coming up from dormancy. A few meters below there were dozens more. I was very excited as Alain Chautems and I had been looking for this plant for over ten years without success and now there were many of them right in front of me. I could have gone back home immediately because this discovery had already made my day, but there was still another plant to find.

The trail ended at the base of the waterfall which was quite impressive—not too wide, but fairly high (about 70 meters). We found our second gesneriad, *Sinningia macropoda*, growing there on the surrounding walls. After collecting some small tubers and taking a lot of pictures, we took another trail that followed the river border and walked about 15 minutes to reach the second waterfall. It was smaller than Saltão and was called Ferradura (horse shoe).

Rogerio was showing me more plants of *S. macropoda* when I noticed two other familiar plants hanging from the wall on a very wet spot. One had plain green leaves and the other was reddish. It was very difficult to get near them because of the slippery soil and the thorny shrubs, but we succeeded and I could then confirm that they were indeed *Gloxinia sylvatica*. Just a few



Sinningia amambayensis
(photo by Alain Chautems)



Sinningia eumorpha
(photo by Alain Chautems)

meters away I finally spotted the mystery *Sinningia*—it was like a hybrid between *S. douglasii* and *S. canescens* as it had the typical habit and pink flowers of *S. douglasii*, but the silvery hairs of *S. canescens*.

We brought back samples from all four treasures, and a few days later I sent some pictures to Alain. His answer was quick and precise: the mystery *Sinningia* was *S. piresiana*. This species was described long ago and never found again; and thanks to my friend Rogerio who just wanted to spend a pleasant day at the waterfall, we now can enjoy the exotic beauty of *S. piresiana* as well as grow new clones of *S. eumorpha* and *Gloxinia sylvatica*.



Mauro Peixoto finding *Sinningia amambayensis*
on a wet rock wall

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Recent Observations of *Sinningia* in the Wild

Dr. Alain Chautems <alain.chautems@cjb.ville-ge.ch>
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When I started my Ph.D. dissertation some 20 years ago, I would never have imagined that it would lead me to make so many exciting field trips in South America. Each trip usually brings a wealth of new information, like new localities for little known species, new details on morphology or ecology or even discovery of plants new to science.

Any trip usually includes some days spent at revising herbarium collections in local universities or botanical gardens. While recording data on Gesneriaceae, used at first for writing floristic treatments at the local or regional level, interesting pieces of information are quite often gathered. The next step then is to organize a trip to the places cited on the herbarium labels, along with colleagues or friends. Sometimes such trips cannot be set up immediately, but may take place months or years later depending on the flowering period of the particular plants, weather and road conditions or availability of other participants.

At this point, my long-term friendship with Mauro Peixoto in Brazil is extremely precious. During the period he worked at the Instituto Plantarum, excursions all over Brazil and even in Paraguay had been made easier with the help provided by his boss, Dr. Harri Lorenzi. I visited part of Chapada Diamantina to observe *Sinningia harleyi*, central Brazil to look for *S. defoliata* and northeastern Paraguay to find *S. amambayensis*. In January 2000, I was able to join Mauro and his young colleague Rogerio who brought me to the right spot where long-sought-after species of *Sinningia* and *Gloxinia* had been rediscovered in the State of São Paulo (see Mauro's story also in this issue).

For me, finding *S. piresiana* was very exciting as I had never seen it alive. At the time of my visit, the plants had no flowers left. The picture included with this article was taken by Dr. Lorenzi in his greenhouse. So far, this species was known only from one single collection with its original description published in 1958 in a Brazilian journal. I had looked at the type material at the Instituto de Botânica Herbarium in the city of São Paulo and recorded it with a few pictures. The herbarium label bears little locality information just giving the name "Descalvado", State of São Paulo. Checking for this name on directories and maps, I was able to find two citations: one in the coastal mountain range near the limit between São Paulo and Paraná States; the other one much more inland, in an intensely cultivated zone.

Mauro and I had explored the former region on several occasions and found, on sandstone rocks in dense rainforest, *S. calcaria*, *S. hatschbachii* and *S. reitzii*. (The latter turned out to be somewhat different from the typical species.) In April 1998, a GRF study group visited this area, famous for some caverns accessible to tourists (Caverna do Diabo and da Santana). The occurrence of several *Sinningia* species (as well as *Nematanthus tessmannii*) was a good indicator for possibly finding *S. piresiana*. Unfortunately, access to Descalvado was only possible along a stream by boat, and we had very little detail on where to look. We visited there in November 1998, but rain made us reluctant to further pursue such an exploration.

The location of the other place pointed to a small city amid an intensively cultivated zone with little chance left for wild vegetation. For this reason, Mauro and I had previously decided not to visit there. In December 1999 when we reached the place discovered by Rogerio a few weeks earlier, we understood our lack of perspicacity. The waterfall lies in a narrow canyon in the middle of a plateau a few hundred meters higher than the surrounding area. As we imagined, the flat top of the plateau bears monotonous sugarcane fields and pastures, but the canyon slopes and bottom are covered by vegetation thriving in the humidity.

Observing *S. eumorpha* in its wild habitat was another great satisfaction, as Mauro and I had tried unsuccessfully to locate this species on several occasions over the last ten years. Here we saw fairly large populations around the Saltão, but also in nearby canyons hiding other waterfalls. Corollas were quite variable, from pure white to light purple, sometimes side by side. The vivid green rosettes grew there on slopes, in pockets of humus among trees and scattered rocks. We had always imagined that the species would prefer some shady environment, and those canyons with rather cool and humid conditions were just right. The flowering period there is between the end of November and January, so we were fortunate enough to find plants in full bloom; we even observed a few large black bumble-bees visiting the white corollas. We quickly got in touch with Ivonne, a young PhD student from the nearby University of Campinas, who had just begun detailed pollination studies in Gesneriaceae.



Sinningia piresiana grown and photographed by Harri Lorenzi



Sinningia amambayensis showing the persistent dried leaves at the base and new growth at the top of the stems (photo by Alain Chautems)

An interesting feature about *S. amambayensis* needs to be added to Mauro's story. This species has stems that do not dry down to the tuber after flowering, but re-sprout and produce a shoot on top of the previous year's stem. All the basal portions of the old stems we observed kept a dense cover of dried leaves with the distal portion of the stem bearing green leaves and flowers. Seeds collected in 1998 produced compact plants in the Geneva Botanical Garden greenhouses and bloomed this summer for the first time; this unique habit seems to be maintained. One of my pictures shows a mantle of brown leaves underlying the new green shoots with the tubers growing at the base of a red rock wall. The location is around the Cerro Cora National Park in the Departamento Amambay in northeastern Paraguay.

Very recently, Lorenzi informed me that he had found a population of this species in Brazil in an area located some 50 km toward the South, in the State of Mato Grosso do Sul. In 1992, I had described the species as an endemic species from Paraguay, based on herbarium material and a few pictures taken by a Swiss colleague who visited the Cerro Cora area to collect mosses. After seeing the plant myself, I was happy to confirm that it really is different than *S. aggregata*, a related species with which it shares the sticky glandulous stems and leaves. *S. amambayensis* differs in its shorter habit, usually unbranched stem, denser hair cover, serrated leaf margin, and bright orange corollas.

I really enjoy working with this beautiful genus, and I also receive great pleasure in sharing information with AGGS members who grow or hybridize the recently introduced species. Last but not least, I am quite sure that new trips will bring more interesting discoveries about the genus *Sinningia* in the near future!

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